

# THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER



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Hopkins Engaged, originally billed as the largest political gathering on any college campus, suffered a low turnout despite several months of planning.

## Engaged falls short of goals

*Rain and marketing strategy cited as causes*

By TARA BRAILEY  
For the News-Letter

Hopkins Engaged, the student-run initiative to encourage greater political awareness as the presidential election approaches, was held as part of last weekend's Fall Fest activities despite the inclement weather.

Even though attendance was sparse, the majority of events continued as planned. The Glass Pavilion was the staging area for a variety of groups ranging from live musical performers and political speakers, to student and grassroots political groups.

Both executive directors of Hopkins Engaged, Dan Teran and Eva Yopes acknowledged the effect of the weather on the event

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ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
The SGA formed a five-member committee to settle disputes over the new constitution and elections.

## Judiciary Committee selected by SGA

By STEPHANIE DELMAN  
News & Features Editor

The Student Government Association (SGA) voted on Tuesday to instate a Judiciary Committee to oversee executive and class council elections.

The Committee, comprised of senior Jessica Buicko, sophomore Matt Garland, sophomore Patrick Mascia, senior Austin Nelson and senior Matt Pines, will be responsible for ensuring that the SGA abides by its constitution.

The Committee will take on the responsibilities of last year's Appeals Board, which includes overseeing elections and handling infractions, and it will also have the power to settle matters of inter-SGA disputes.

The SGA felt the need to instate an impartial committee after conflicts of interests skewed executive election results last fall, according to senior member of SGA Kate Jacob.

"The election debacle last year really solidified why we need an objective, unbiased group of non-SGA members to make sure that the elections run fairly," Jacob said.

While reviewing applications for the Judiciary Committee, members of the SGA said they wanted to make sure they selected students without strong ties to

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## Alternative medicine comes to med school, hospital

By THOMAS DANNER  
For the News-Letter

Hopkins Hospital began offering integrative and "traditional" medical treatments in a new clinic, Complimentary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) on Sept. 2.

Traditional medicine has been used for almost 5,000 years in China, much longer than its Western counterpart. It follows a holistic approach based on the idea that curing a disease means treating both body and mind.

Anastasia Rowland-Seymour, Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, said that integrative medicine combines traditional treatments with conventional treatments. Mixing the two types of treatments can

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## Panhellenic plans to introduce fifth sorority

By STEPHANIE DELMAN  
News & Features Editor

The Panhellenic Council has decided to bring a fifth sorority to campus next fall, after the sizes of pledge classes reached record highs last spring.

The Council met last spring to discuss the unmanageability of pledge classes that exceed 40 students, and they began to determine the plausibility of attracting a fifth National Panhellenic sorority to campus.

According to senior Allie Haeusslein, JHU Panhellenic President, the key motivator in this decision was the feeling that pledge classes were becoming less like sisterhoods and more like large groups of strangers.

"The pledge classes last year were astronomically large, and it's unfair for a girl to join a sisterhood and then realize she doesn't even know anyone's name," Haeusslein said.

The Council, which consists of Robert Turning, coordinator of Greek Life, as well as a delegate and an executive officer from each of the four current Panhellenic sororities on campus, voted by majority on Tuesday to go forth with efforts to instate a fifth sorority. The results of

the vote were three to one, with Kappa Kappa Gamma (KKG) as the only dissenting vote.

Sarah DePaolo, Treasurer of the Panhellenic Council and KKG delegate, declined to comment on her vote, citing a sorority-wide policy of not speaking with members of the press.

According to Turning, it would be difficult for KKG to support the establishment of a new sorority as they have yet to meet their own quota of 80 sisters.

If the vote holds up over the coming weeks, the Council will begin collaboration with the National Panhellenic Council (NPC), the umbrella organization that supervises the 26 national Panhellenic sororities.

The NPC will announce that Hopkins



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
The Panhellenic Council met on Tuesday to discuss plans to invite national sororities to consider starting a new chapter at Hopkins.

is accepting applications for colonization from the 22 remaining national sororities.

Turning said that he wouldn't be surprised if all sororities expressed interest

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## Md. investigates incident of surveillance at Homewood

By KATIE COLLINS  
For the News-Letter

Hopkins has been part of an ongoing investigation of possibly illegal police surveillance of anti-war and anti-death penalty protests in Maryland.

Governor Martin O'Malley held a press conference yesterday to discuss the findings of a civil liberties violation investigation that involve the 2005 protest at Homewood.

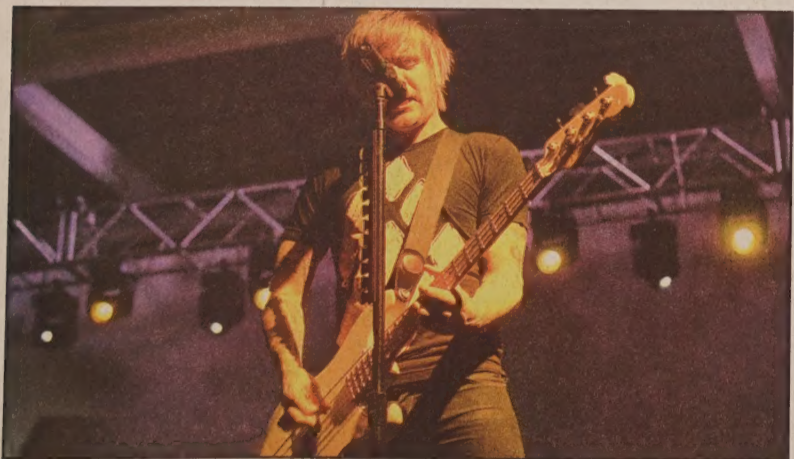
The Maryland State Police sent a trooper to monitor and gather information from a ceremony held on the Homewood Campus on Aug. 9, 2005 to commemorate the dropping of the atomic bomb on Nagasaki, Japan 61 years earlier.

Participants of the protest of Maryland United for Peace and Justice, a social justice group, held signs protesting nuclear weaponry against Hopkins's Applied Physics Lab, which had previously accepted government contracts for expansion.

Maryland State Police Colonel Terrence Sheridan was allegedly instructed to launch the surveillance program in 2005 by a top law enforcement official during the administration of former governor Robert Ehrlich.

"The ACLU filed a bunch of new public information act requests Tuesday in

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ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Bye Like Girls performed at the Recreation Center on Saturday as part of the Verizon Wireless Tour.

## Fall Fest festivities succeed despite unfavorable weather conditions

By CUONG NGUYEN  
Staff Writer

Hopkins's fifth annual autumn festival was held last weekend amidst unfavorable weather conditions, with events ranging from the traditional Fall Fest kick-off cookout to the flashy and exciting atmosphere of Casino Night, as well as the electric energy of the Verizon Wireless Concert Tour.

According to undergraduates and Fall Fest staff, Friday's events were successful in attracting a large number of

students but attendance at Saturday's events were less than expected due to the torrential rains produced by the residual effects of Hurricane Kyle.

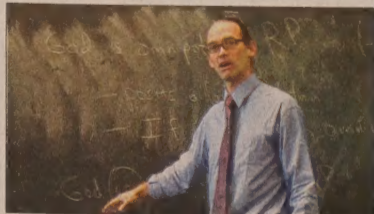
For the first time, Friday's Fall Fest kick-off Cookout was held inside the Glass Pavilion due to the sporadic rain showers that had occurred that day. More than a 1,000 Hopkins students and faculty attended the event, which featured a local band. The attendance level was moderate compared to the Beach barbeque at the beginning of

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## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# Faculty awarded prestigious no-frills MacArthur grants

Adam Riess reflects on significance of being named a "genius" and daily life as a researcher

By CONOR FOLEY  
For the News-Letter

Adam Riess is the ninth member of Hopkins faculty to receive the prestigious MacArthur Fellowship, a \$500,000, five-year grant given to "individuals selected for their creativity, originality and potential to make important future contributions."

Riess was the first author of a paper published in 1998 announcing the discovery of the dark energy, which is known to be driving the expansion of the universe in defiance of the forces of gravity.

**News-Letter (N-L):** What do you intend to do with the MacArthur Fellows Grant?

Adam Riess (AR): I'm not really sure. There's one project I have in mind, which involves building a special set of filters for a telescope for a particular application.

**N-L:** You're really involved with the Hubble Space telescope. What does that entail?

AR: I've worked with the [Hubble] Space Telescope Institute from the side of helping calibrate it and make it accessible to other astronomers.

In 2001 I made an important discovery with data from the archive of Hubble data. This provided data on the most distant supernovas yet observed. That observation alone helped confirm that the universe is expanding. Ever since, I've been doing studies with this data about the increasing rate of expansion in the universe.

**N-L:** How did you decide on your area of research?

AR: I never decided to study dark energy — we just happened to discover it. What we wanted to study was the expansion rate of the universe and the age of the universe. By observing that the rate of expansion was accelerating, this implied the existence of dark energy.

**N-L:** After this discovery, what are your future research plans?

AR: I'm working in a number of different situations. I'm helping to design a new camera that will increase current optical power.

I'm also working with PanStar, a program that's searching for supernovas. JHU is particularly involved in this project. We're also preparing proposals for a dedicated space telescope for dark energy study.

**N-L:** How has being at Hopkins helped you pursue these goals?

AR: I don't know how many people are aware, but Maryland and Baltimore area in particular really strong in space sciences. The area has institutions that have

participated in preparing, running, and building numerous space missions.

JHU itself has a strong history of working in the space program. The Applied Physics Lab has been important in building projects, and the Physics and Astronomy Department are highly involved in space missions.

The high concentration of space-related institutions here made me feel like it would be a great place to conduct my research.

**N-L:** How do you view the MacArthur Fellows award? How does it compare to other honors you've received over the years?

AR: The MacArthur is really exciting because other awards I've received were about the specific discovery of dark energy, working with a lot of people.

The MacArthur is different in that it claims to recognize creativity and future potential. I'm honored people view that I bring creativity to my work.

**I'm blown away to take this really big question ... and be able to devise a scientific experiment to really test them.**

— ADAM REISS,  
MACARTHUR FELLOW

**N-L:** Where does your work fit into the larger astronomy and astrophysics community?

AR: The dark energy work is a really hot topic. People realize that it's very fundamental and significant, but we don't really understand it. It deals with some of the most cherished theories that we have in physics... It has excited the whole community to try to answer these big questions.

**N-L:** What has been the single most rewarding aspect or experience in the course of your research?

AR: I like it because there's a kind of freedom in it. There's a lot of creativity in it. The goal is to answer something, solve a problem. It isn't quite like school or classes, where you're given a problem you know can be solved, and you have this method already taught to you. It's much more wide open. It's intellectually really stimulating to answer these problems.

I'm blown away to take this really big questions, that might seem philosophical at first, and be able to devise a scientific experiment to really test them.

**N-L:** Any advice for undergraduates starting research careers?



COURTESY OF WWW.JHU.EDU/NEWS  
Adam Riess was part of the team that discovered dark energy.

AR: Yeah. Don't get discouraged in the beginning, because in the beginning before you build up all of your tools and have a good understanding of what the purpose of your research is, it is easy to get discouraged. I would also encourage them to find the area where they can get energized and excited, because that's half the battle.

Try to match what you're researching [with] what you're really interested in, because it is easy to get discouraged on any given day if you're not excited about what you're doing.

**N-L:** When we talk about research we often focus on the big discoveries, but this is also your day job. What is it like being a researcher when you're not answering these big questions?

AR: It definitely involves a lot of drudgery. Filling for telescope time, writing grant proposals, *et cetera* — things that you find kind of boring. But the more time I spend in the field I see how important all these smaller bits are for the larger goal. If you don't archive your research really well, then you'll never really be able to study the data as much as you want to.

There's also the ongoing research, when you aren't on the verge of a discovery, where you collaborate. You have to talk about research with other scientists, help explain topics to other researchers... Human interaction is a big part of it.

**N-L:** Hopkins is often called a "research university." How do you feel research contributes to students at Hopkins, and has it changed how you approach teaching classes?

AR: I teach a basic Astro course for non-majors called "Stars and the Universe."

I think one of the things that makes it an exciting and fun course is that I'm constantly bringing in material from the cutting edge, and I'm able to talk about things I'm actually working on, instead of just reading about something in a book.

Students are talking to someone with a deep appreciation of the material ... It looks to me like the undergraduates really benefit from that kind of exposure.

Peter Pronovost describes his method of applied research

Peter Pronovost, the eighth Hopkins faculty member to receive the MacArthur Fellowship, is credited with the creation of a simple safety checklist which has led to the prevention of thousands of deaths due to catheter-related blood infections in the states in which it has been implemented.

**News-Letter (N-L):** What will you do with the MacArthur Fellowship Grant?

Peter Pronovost (PP): I'm not quite sure yet. Hopefully I can use it to provide some time for reflecting on riskier or more innovative ideas.

One of the fundamental problems in health care (and with the financial crisis) is an inefficient knowledge market. The financial problems and the health care problems are similar — risks are opaque. Somebody is aware of the risk, but the decision maker isn't more aware. Checklists are a potential tool to work with that, a tool to tap into the knowledge of the community.

**N-L:** Can you explain a little bit about the checklists you've helped devise, which the MacArthur foundation highlighted in giving you this Award?

PP: Pilot testing at Hopkins eliminated catheter infections. I then did a study at University of Michigan where checklists proved immensely successful ... The problem isn't to make a checklist but to get people to use the checklist. We've received grants to start putting the checklist in 10 more states, and we're partnering with the WHO to put the program in several countries.

**N-L:** How did you decide on your area of research?

PP: When I was in school, the mantra was always pick a project that's important. To me, this formula seemed lacking. I also asked how does this make the world better?

The opportunity to improve health is to focus on how health care is offered. This checklist is supposed to have been more successful at saving lives than many interventions that have been recently devised ... What really turns me on is making a difference, making the world a better place.

**N-L:** How has being part of the Hopkins community helped you to pursue these goals?

PP: Being at Hopkins has done a number of things. Hopkins is this great mixing bowl. You need a variety of disciplines in order to pursue that research ... and a place like Hopkins really encourages partnerships across schools.

I believe it attracts even more attention now because of the realization that disease is global and not only affecting specific parts of the world," she said. "The world is waking up and realizing that it is everyone's responsibility to help each other in order to make the world a better place."

"Young adults are looking for more opportunities to help

Many universities don't provide the collaboration required to create the mixing bowls for producing research at this level. The spirit of discovery tells us to bring science to this, this value of discovery that has encouraged us to approach new problems.

**N-L:** How do you view the MacArthur Fellows Award? How does it compare to other honors you've received over the years?

PP: It's absolutely critical. When I started this work, it wasn't really considered as legitimate scholarly work. Putting evidence into practice is the art of medicine, and we haven't viewed it as science in the past. Getting the MacArthur validates the work that I've done.

**N-L:** Does your work affect the academic community as a whole?

PP: Profoundly. This work that we've done has created this whole new field of the science of health care delivery. This science is legitimate. It is important, and it is impactful.

**N-L:** What has been the most rewarding aspect or experience in the course of your research?

PP: Just knowing the impact we're having on preventing death and suffering and watching the joy on clinicians' and hospital leaders' faces when they see that we're improving health care. We're just doing some of the technical work. We help them believe they can and give the technical support to make it easier.

**N-L:** Any advice for undergraduates starting research careers?

PP: Yes, absolutely. I think producing great research and great researches is ... where small changes can have large, unpredictable [effects]. Get formal training in clinical research methods. Get a mentor who is capable and committed to you, and get time to work on a project.

**N-L:** How does it feel to be named a genius? Has it affected how you view yourself and your work?

PP: I don't think I fit the bill very well.

My research is applied to make the world better. Anything that applies to the real world has to be ruthlessly simple.

We take these complex ideas and simplify them in a way that is rigorous enough to be true to the science but easy enough to be applied in a rural hospital. I'm happy to bring the joy back into many clinicians' practice of medicine.

## New sorority may come to Hopkins

Continued from Page A1

in starting a chapter at Hopkins.

"We've always had a lot of interest from national groups, because Hopkins is a great school, and any sorority would be proud to colonize here. Now in particular though, we're the perfect candidate [for a national sorority that is looking to expand], because our percentage of students involved in Greek life is rising immensely," Turning said.

Once the Panhellenic Council has received letters of interest from a variety of sororities, they will invite up to four groups to campus to present their missions to the existing Panhellenic chapters.

According to Turning, this selection process is integral to ensuring that the new chapter will be a good fit with the rest of the Hopkins Greek community.

Although all interested sororities will be given an equal opportunity to present their cases, it is NPC policy to give preference to chapters that have either already existed on this campus at one time, or those that have written formal letters of interest in years past.

This means that Delta Gamma, as the only sorority to have existed and then disbanded at Hopkins, will be given extra consideration if they choose to apply.

"This is sort of like a legacy process. If Delta Gamma has a strong application, we won't take them immediately but we will definitely give them a second look," Turning said.

According to Turning, Ki Omega, Gamma Phi Beta and Alpha Chi Omega have all already written to express their interest in starting chapters at Hopkins.

Once the list has been narrowed down, Turning plans to look to factors such as the presence of Baltimore alumni from each prospective chapter — as they will be crucial in laying the framework for the Hopkins chapter — and the chapters' overall national rankings.

The Council plans to extend an invitation to the chosen sorority by this coming April. The new sorority will begin colonization in the fall of the next academic year, and with the help of local alumni and NPC administrators, it will begin recruiting sophomores, juniors and seniors by September of next year.

According to Turning, this new chapter might experience a slow start.

"The chapter will certainly have those initial growing pains, but it will be attractive to girls who went through formal rush and weren't matched," he said.

Freshman Alexas von Kunes Newton plans to participate in formal rush in the spring. She said that if rush didn't work out for any particular reason, she would still be reluctant to join a new sorority come fall.

"Personally, I wouldn't want to join a group that is still working on getting established," von Kunes Newton said.

Haeusslein said that the small size and growing power of the new sorority will in fact be attractive to a variety of girls.

"This will be a great opportunity for sophomores looking for leadership positions, or those who are turned off by the stereotypes that each sorority already has on campus. This new sorority will offer a clean slate," she said.

## New generation of students triggers nationwide surge in public health

By YOUNG-HEE KIM  
For the News-Letter

The popular public health major at Hopkins, one of the oldest in the nation, is following a national upward trend in the creation and expansion as such programs attract globally conscious students looking to make a difference.

The number of declared public health majors jumped from 159 in 1999 to 311 in 2008, according to Jim Goodyear, associate director of undergraduate public health.

Kelly Gebo, director of undergraduate public health, said that this year over 100 seniors will graduate from the program.

Due to the increased number of public health majors, the department will add another advisor this month.

While Hopkins is working to expand its public health program, other schools are working toward creating public health programs of their own.

According to the *Washington Post*, 137 of the 837 members of Association of American Colleges and Universities now offer

majors or minors in the field, and more and more school representatives are attending workshops that will help them develop public health programs.

"Hopkins is one of only a handful of schools that has an undergraduate program in public health studies, though many undergraduate universities are trying to set one up because of growing student interest," Gebo said.

Goodyear is hardly surprised by the recent influx of interest in public health.

"[It] is a natural phenomenon, considering that people from across the spectrum interested in going to medical school and international policies come to Hopkins," Goodyear explained. "Students interested in going to medical school with a broader curriculum encompassing social sciences are attracted to public health studies. As seniors, undergraduates are given to opportunities to study with professors at the Bloomberg School of Public Health, which really gives young people a whole difference sense of themselves and the world."

Public health professors attributed the surge of interest in public health, both nationally and at Hopkins, to a number of reasons, but stressed that this generation of students' increased interest and awareness of global issues is a key motivation for students to pursue a course of study in public health.

"Students now are more interested in public health due to increase in awareness about health problems. You see it in the press, on the news and on TV. People now know that public health problems can be solved by being a public health major," biophysics professor Richard Cone said.

"I think students today understand the world more due to globalization," he added. "They understand that what happens in other countries impacts them, and what happens here impacts other nations. The media spreads news about epidemics and public health problems very powerfully."

Senior public health major Jemma Alarcon agreed.

"Public health has become a national trend because of the impact it has in the health of the na-

tion. I believe it attracts even more attention now because of the realization that disease is global and not only affecting specific parts of the world," she said. "The world is waking up and realizing that it is everyone's responsibility to help each other in order to make the world a better place."

"Young adults are looking for more opportunities to help

people in other countries. They have stronger desires to help than undergraduates before," public policy professor in the sociology department Andrew Cherlin said. "Perhaps it is a generational thing. In the '60s people were focused on social issues. In the '80s people were focused on themselves. Now is a new generation of people who are interested in social issues."

### SECURITY ALERTS

Between Sept. 23 at 7 p.m. and Sept. 24 at 8 a.m.: Unidentified person(s) entered an empty student car parked on 3100 N. Calvert St. and stole an undetermined amount of change from the car's console. Investigation continuing.

Between Sept. 24 at 1 p.m. and Sept. 25 at 5 p.m.: A laptop was taken from an empty classroom in Maryland Hall. Investigation continuing.

Between Sept. 24 at 5 p.m. and Sept. 25 at 7 a.m.: A water pump located in the rear of the Evergreen House on 4545 N. Charles St. was removed from a fountain and broken.

Sept. 28 at 4:50 a.m.: A freshman reported that five male students she met at a fraternity party knocked on her door repeatedly and shouted profanities. The males wrote profanities on a white board outside of her dorm room. The matter was referred to Dean of Student Life.

Between Sept. 10 at 8:30 a.m. and Sept. 26 at 2 p.m.: A laptop and case were taken from a file cabinet that was left unlocked inside the New Engineering Building.

## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# Financial aid panel calls for reforms that may solve Hopkins students' monetary issues

By **TRANG VU**  
For the News-Letter

The Rethinking Student Aid Study Group, comprised of financial aid officers from around the country, released a set of proposals last week for reforms in federal financial aid.

The Hopkins financial aid office has expressed concern with the current financial aid process.

"We have received feedback from students and parents saying they had a difficult time understanding the aid application process, and we are currently looking at ways to simplify our own policies," Vincent Amoroso, director of the Office of Student Financial Services, wrote in an e-mail. "However, with the federal government being the driving force behind the look and feel of the FAFSA, there is only so much we can do."

The Study Group offered suggestions that, instead of the Free Application for Student Aid, colleges should get financial information through the IRS, that Pell Grants should be determined

solely by family size and gross income rather than by family assets, that families should be alerted every year of the aid their children are eligible for, and that the number of federal scholarships should be cut so that Pell Grants can be more generous.

"It's a persistent puzzle that fewer people go to college than really ought to," Rethinking Student Aid Researcher and Assistant Professor of Education at Vanderbilt Will Doyle said. "If you look at going on to higher education, it's one of the best investments we could possibly make."

Amoroso said his office has been reviewing financial aid policies to facilitate the procedure.

"We are currently in the process of reviewing our aid policies and how we communicate and interact with students," Amoroso said. "Without a doubt, our goal is to try and take a complex process and to make it as user friendly and understandable as possible. However, this isn't always easy when your biggest partner is the federal government."

According to Barmak Nas-

sirian of the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, the federal government needs to ensure that aid is going to students looking to go into the for-profit sector, or those who otherwise plan to make use of this investment.

"The federal government has an enormous responsibility to ensure only quality institutions are participating in federal programs," Nassirian said. "I don't think they're doing a good job today and I would call for tightening of requirements so that students are not cheated out of their student aid dollars."

But otherwise, he said, he was in full support of the suggestions, especially for the elimination of the FAFSA.

Here at Hopkins, most of the students interviewed agree with Nassirian.

"Overall, I think that trying to eliminate FAFSA would be a good thing because I have a younger brother in college and so the weekend where it comes time to fill out the FAFSA is always problematic because there's two times the paperwork," senior Aru Sahni said. "You already spend so much on taxes; A lot of it's just redundant so I don't see a problem with ... releasing records to Hopkins, for example."

The timing of the FAFSA's due date is also particularly inconvenient, students said.

"It is a bit frustrating when you're trying to get ready to get back to school and you have the FAFSA to worry about in addition to all the other paperwork that goes into the starting of the school year," sophomore Rachel Trusty said.

For incoming freshmen, it is also difficult to handle the FAFSA in the rush of their high school senior year, according to freshman Lyndon O'Connor.

For parents that handle their own salaries, the FAFSA is also unnecessarily difficult.

"I think making it easier would be definitely a good idea," junior Tashi Rowe said. "I know my parents own their own business and so it's really hard to fill out FAFSA."

Senior Cassandra Mickish also noted from the experiences of her friends that the FAFSA requires much parent involvement, since the family's tax information is not always accessible or familiar to the students themselves.

The FAFSA then becomes even more difficult if the parents are not supportive of their children, she observed.

Since the proposals are directed to encourage first-generation immigrant students and low-income students, they actually would affect many students at Hopkins directly.

According to Nassirian, the current federal financial aid application process is too complex, so much so that it discourages low-income and first-generation immigrant students.

"If your dad is an accountant, a lawyer, a doctor, they curse under their breath, but they will work through the nightmare that FAFSA has become," he said. "But it is the children of immigrants, the children of low-income parents, it's folks who don't have that ability, who are simultaneously most dependent on student aid, who look at it frankly as a message that college isn't right for them. In some ways it is the most negative message we could send to low-income Americans."

Doyle further explained that the problem is actually a combination of a convoluted application process and a lack of financial aid.

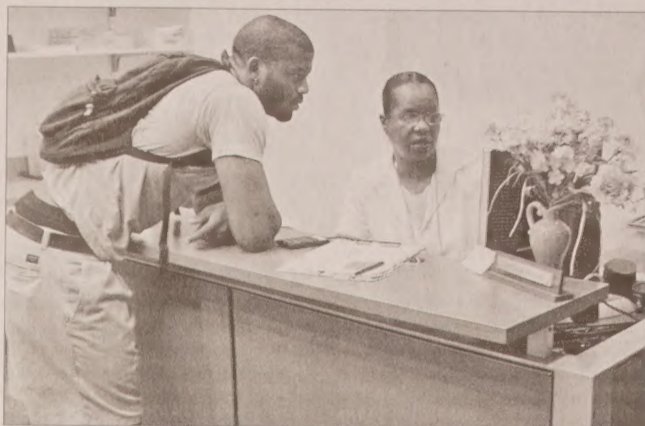
"Low-income students turn out to be more sensitive to changes in price than other groups. We're talking about middle and upper income students talking this over with their families; They're just trying to figure out how they're going to go to college," he said. "But for a lot of low income people the decisions is whether or not they're going to go at all."

The FAFSA can also be inaccurate because of its intricacy, some Hopkins students found.

"It's just kind of up in the air, because one person can get this much but this person can get a lower amount, even though they may be in the same class," sophomore Casey Blythe said.

Daniel Mickish, a Hopkins parent, was supportive of eliminating the FAFSA. He provided a FAFSA story Hopkins parents may have in common.

"I spent about two hours over the Internet on a preliminary form which determined whether it was likely that Cassie would be eligible for aid," he said. "After spending two hours on that there was a cryptic answer at the end saying 'No.' I thought it was



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
Secretary Donita Holcomb helps a student at the Financial Aid Office in Garland.

absurd to ask for an enormous amount of information without giving any indication along the way of whether aid was likely or not."

Mickish would have taken a different approach than Rethinking Student Aid, he said.

"I think all aid ought to be eliminated, forcing the universities, the colleges, to substantially reduce their tuition and that other non-governmental resources be used to provide students that have the greatest likelihood of success," he proposed.

One Hopkins senior who asked to remain anonymous disagreed with the elimination of FAFSA.

"I think this will do the opposite of streamlining [the financial aid application process], even if FAFSA is onerous," she said.

She argued that in college there is similar paperwork and similarly arduous processes to go through. If people get discouraged by the financial aid process then perhaps they are not likely to do well in college, she reasoned.

Doyle, however, said he feels that everyone deserves to go to college, whether or not they can manage their FAFSA paperwork.

"If you could provide sufficient funding so that [low-income families] are not pushed away by the sticker price and make sure they're aware of the options that are available much earlier, it's going to result in a lot more students going on to higher education," he said.

And, he said, America needs all the college students and, particularly, college graduates it can get.

"A lot of jobs where you can

make a decent living with a high school diploma: Those are going away, and they're not coming back," Dole said.

The need is even greater during this time of American economic trouble. More people graduating from college might actually help the American economy.

"We're going to need workers that can fulfill that goal if we're going to maintain our position in the global economy. And right now we're not doing that, we're actually being surpassed the enrollment of young people by other countries for the first time in our history," Doyle said.

Andrew Reschovsky, another researcher involved in Rethinking Student Aid and a professor of public policy and administration at University of Wisconsin-Madison, said simply the reason why Rethinking Student Aid put out the report.

"We're the land of opportunity, and if you have the ability and the desire, then you should be able to pursue higher education. Just the fact that your parent happened to be poor then that shouldn't deprive you of the opportunity you deserve now," Reschovsky said.

So the Rethinking Student Aid Study Group got to work.

According to Reschovsky, a task force was composed of scholars specializing in finance and higher education, with funding from CollegeBoard and a foundation, convened, defined leading financial aid issues, and invited other scholars to perform background research and find possible reforms. The result was the report released last Thursday and its proposals.



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.GOOGLE.COM

The Universal House of Justice in Haifa, Israel, is home to the holy Baha'i texts.

## Baha'i community a growing presence at Homewood

By **SARAH CAPPONI**  
For the News-Letter

While Baha'i is one of the fastest-growing religions in the world, its representation at Hopkins is very small. There are an estimated eight or nine practicing Baha'is between all of the affiliated Hopkins campuses.

If not for the presence of practicing Baha'is in the surrounding Baltimore community, there would be virtually no representation of the Baha'i faith on campus.

Though Baha'i is growing worldwide, the "local spiritual assembly" of Baha'is in Baltimore only includes approximately 75 people. However, Baha'i includes all races and peoples.

Pete McGraw, a recent convert to Baha'i, noted, "Wherever the Baha'is seem to be present, there seems to be a very diverse following body."

The Baha'i faith is relatively new to the world. It was founded in the mid-1800s in what is now Iran by a nobleman named Baha'u'llah.

Baha'is believe that Baha'u'llah is the last in a string of prophets from God. These prophets include Jesus Christ and Mohammed. In many ways, Baha'i builds upon Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

However, the main focus of the Baha'i faith is unity between all people, races and faiths. To Baha'is, God is the only God, and all humans are his people.

Baha'i is unique in that there are no weekly services and no ministers. The closest things that approximate any regular service are the 19-Day Feasts and the weekly class meetings that are held here on campus. 19-Day Feasts are a unique part of the Baha'i faith. Every 19 days, according to the Baha'i calendar, the Baha'i community gathers for prayer, feasting, socializing and administrative activity. These feasts are designed to increase the unity among members of the community. The more regular

meetings are learning classes.

On Sundays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Schaffer Hall, a portion of the Baltimore Baha'i community gathers on campus to discuss and learn about their faith. Classes begin with the community joined in prayer and spiritual songs.

The members then split up into a number of small classes: two classes of young children aged three to 10 who focus on learning the basis of the Baha'i faith, and two classes of adults who are focused on discussing and understanding the

Baha'i holy texts. The adult classes are very casual and encourage open discussion and questioning; The absence of ministers in the Baha'i faith means that no higher authority can tell Baha'is what of the holy texts to believe.

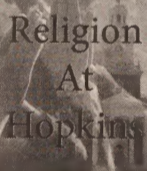
The members of Baha'i are often well-versed in the Koran and the Bible in order to compare and contrast the teachings of God in the different religious texts.

According to the members of the meeting, finding truth in Baha'i happens when an individ-

ual's soul recognizes the truth from God and from his prophet Baha'u'llah. Individuals find and accept Baha'i alone; There is no conversion ceremony — members merely choose to follow the teachings of Baha'u'llah.

In the Baha'i faith, the acceptance of all humans as one whole body serves to eradicate many existing prejudices. The class on Sunday included African Americans, Caucasians and people of Middle Eastern descent.

Unfortunately, there is no religious center in Baltimore; The recent 19-Day Feast, which was held on Sept. 27, was held at the Waldorf School in Coldspring, Md. The Baha'i community in Baltimore may stop meeting at Hopkins after first semester; The members of the faith hope to move out into the neighborhoods of Baltimore in order to have a more positive impact in the community.



Wherever the Baha'is seem to be present, there seems to be a very diverse following body.

— **PETER MCGRAW,**  
**BAHA'I FOLLOWER**

## Hopkins receives B- from Sustainability Report Card

By **GISELLE CHANG**  
Staff Writer

Though the College Sustainability Report Card awarded Hopkins high marks in sustainability areas such as green buildings, transportation and student involvement, failing scores for privatized endowments lowered the overall score to a B-.

Now in its third year, the Report Card examines 300 colleges and universities, gauging their level of sustainability, or how well the school meets the needs of the present without negatively impacting the future. The Report Card studies a school's policies in the areas of Administration, Climate Change & Energy, Endowment Transparency, Food & Recycling, Green Building, Investment Priorities, Shareholder Engagement, Student Involvement and Transportation.

Under the category of Endowment Transparency the Report Card gave Hopkins an F due to the lack of information the school has made public with regards to the \$2.8-billion endowment (as of June 30, 2007).

"The university makes neither its proxy voting record nor a list of endowment holdings public. This information is only available to trustees and senior administrators upon request," stated the Report.

Kathryn J. Crecelius, the Chief Investment Officer of Hopkins, addressed the transparency issue by explaining the competitiveness of investment management with an increasing number of endowments, foundations, Sovereign Wealth Funds, pension funds and others all vying to get access to managers and asset classes.

"It is not in Johns Hopkins's interest to publicize widely its investments or strategies. That is why we limit transparency," she wrote in an e-mail to the News-

Letter.

Davis Bookhart, the Environmental Stewardship Manager expressed frustration at the opaqueness of the endowment category. He said he wondered if Hopkins's sustainability policies were being undermined by investments in companies that in some way oppose green projects.

"It looks like we're being criticized because our endowment is not transparent, and if it's not transparent, does it mean we're investing in things we're embarrassed about, or in things that are undercutting our missions?" Bookhart said. "How can we be confident in knowing that what an alumnus is giving us is not going to undercut the goals we're setting here?"

While Crecelius conceded that few or none of the endowments come from green corporations because they are a relatively new phenomenon, she said that nothing controversial or injurious to the sustainability policies was being hidden.

"We are not investing in things we are embarrassed about, nor are we undercutting our missions. We, and our managers, are long-term investors looking to invest in companies that create long-term value. Our job in

managing the endowment is to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment, net of payout, for current and future students. That is the way we view sustainability," she said.

Sophomore Dan Teran, an active member of undergraduate environmental movements, said he was unsurprised by Hopkins's F with regards to endowments.

"That's notoriously our Achilles tendon of sustainability. There have been numerous attempts to improve the transparency but ... I can't speak to why, it's a big institution that doesn't want private information disclosed," he said.

In other areas besides endowments, Hopkins received complimentary marks. The Report Card noted Hopkins's ongoing energy efficiency program that since 2003 has reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 10,000 tons as well as its bus service, the second-largest in Maryland.

Bookhart said that there has been significant development of visions for what a truly sustainable campus looks like in terms of food services that are purely sustainable, healthy buildings, good policies in place to control rainwater runoff and resources that are readily renewable and replenished. "The carbon policy

is a component of the larger sustainable vision for the university, climate change is a huge issue and a lot of what we're doing has to do with reducing our climate impact. But it's also important to keep in mind even though global warming is the dominant issue of the day, we don't want to take our eyes off of other environmental things — we need to be sensitive about the water we consume; how it's trapped on campus," Bookhart said. "We have two of the largest green roofs on the east coast; When water hits the Decker quad, it gets absorbed into the nice grass turf instead of just driving it off of the property."

Although the Report Card recognized certain areas of Hopkins's sustainability policies, in the Food & Recycling category Hopkins received only a B, which Bookhart found disappointing.

"The sustainable endowments institute did not recognize all the great work that's been done in dining; the tray-less dining in FFC, they're doing fun things like weighing the food in the end to see what's being swept off plates, they've always been emphasizing local food ... I wish that our dining had been a little more recognized," he said.

### CORRECTIONS

In the Sept. 25 edition of the *News-Letter*, Sarah Hersh's name was misspelled.

On page A1 in the article "Nancy Pelosi to speak at graduation," former Mayor Michael Bloomberg should have been identified as an independent. The same article also claimed that Pelosi will be the first female graduation speaker in 23 years. This is incorrect.

In the article titled "New exhibit brings English countryside to the BMA" on page B3, the name Lady Elizabeth Templeton should have read Templetown. In the same article, it was implied that watercolors were relatively inexpensive to purchase. In fact it was the prints that were inexpensive.

In the article titled "SLAMicide takes poetry off the page and into the Den" on page B5, the quote reading, "We certainly encourage quality writing first" should have been attributed to Dave Schein.

The *News-Letter* regrets these errors.

## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

## News in Brief

## Hopkins

## Former JHMI researcher to step down from post at NIH

Former Hopkins School of Medicine researcher and executive Elias Zerhouni will be stepping down as chief of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) at the end of October.

On Wednesday, NIH stated in a news release that Zerhouni, 57, has resigned in order to "pursue writing projects and explore other professional opportunities."

The institution, which is based in Bethesda, Md., has yet to announce a replacement for the position.

As the executive vice dean of the Hopkins School of Medicine, Zerhouni participated in the creation of the school's Institute for Cell Engineering, which includes programs focusing on neuro-regeneration, stem cell biology, vascular biology and immunobiology.

Zerhouni was primarily involved in researching methods to treat diseases, such as cancer, through magnetic resonance imaging.

In addition, he helped found



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.NIH.GOV  
Former Hopkins research Elias Zerhouni will leave his post as head of the NIH.

Surgi Vision, a Baltimore medical technology company that produces various devices that take high-resolution images inside the human body.

After Zerhouni left his tenure at Hopkins in 2002, he took over the position of chief at NIH and was responsible for its 27 institutes and nearly 20,000 employees around the country.

Zerhouni also oversaw the launch of several biotech research initiatives including the "NIH Roadmap" program, which developed various guidelines for medical research.

— Rebecca Fishbein



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.WORLDBANK.ORG  
Jhpiego has received \$40 million to help women and infants in Tanzania.

## Jhpiego receives \$40 million for Tanzanian health initiative

A Hopkins-affiliated health care program has received a \$40 million contract towards prenatal and newborn care in Tanzania.

Money was awarded to the Hopkins nonprofit organization Jhpiego, which has been helping vulnerable populations with a number of different care programs since it was created in 1973.

The five-year contract will create stronger maternal, prenatal and newborn services, including initiatives that will help prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS between mothers and their children.

The program will be known as Mothers and Infants, Safe, Healthy, Alive, or MAISHA.

Funds were granted to Jhpiego by the United States Agency for International Development.

Current statistics show that there are 13,000 pregnant women and 45,000 newborn fatalities in Tanzania every year.

— Marie Cushing

## In Other College News

## Panel calls for less emphasis on test scores in admissions

A panel of college admissions officials has recently called for less emphasis on SAT and ACT scores and more emphasis on other types of high school achievement in the college admissions process.

The panel's recommendation is a result of a year-long study led by Harvard Dean of Admissions William R. Fitzsimmons. The study showed that the admissions process's dependence on the sort of standardized testing promoted by the SAT and ACT has created a student culture that is less focused on the fundamentals of education and more on studying specifically for the tests.

The study comes in the wake of colleges and universities such as Smith College in Massachusetts and Bates College in Maine that have successfully chosen to make standardized college admissions tests optional. The college admissions officials' recent commission proposes that more of the country's universities should consider following suit. It also urges scholarship programs like the National Merit Scholarship program to stop using standardized tests like the PSAT to determine who is qualified for their awards.

The study, which was convened by the National Association for College Admission Counseling, saw SAT and ACT scores as less reliable factors in admissions than grades, essays and tests geared towards specific subjects. It found that students

are often over-coached for these standardized tests by tutors and through expensive test-prep programs, thus making it difficult to determine their future performance in college classes.

— Rebecca Fishbein

## Opponents to new Facebook plan nation-wide boycott

In reaction to last month's introduction of the "new Facebook" — a radical design overhaul of the popular networking Web site — users have organized a nationwide boycott.

A Facebook group formed for those in opposition to the new design has nearly 2.7 million supporters, and its leaders are spearheading a two-day boycott to get their point across.



COURTESY OF WWW.WSD.ORG  
College admissions may soon place less emphasis on SAT and ACT scores.

The group has thus far greatly exceeded its original goal of one million members protesting that the new Facebook is unnecessarily difficult to navigate, and that Facebook officials made this decision without their clients' interests in mind.

Facebook has been monitoring these groups, tracking the complaints and reaching out to some of the leaders, according to a spokeswoman from the Web site.

Still, the leaders of the oppositions feel that their protests are being ignored. They have scheduled the boycott for the weekend of Oct. 18 and 19.

— Stephanie Delman

## City Beat

## Funeral held for slain former City Councilman Kenneth Harris

A funeral service for the former city Councilman Kenneth Harris, Sr. was held last Thursday at Morgan State University.

Harris, 45, was fatally shot outside the New Haven Lodge, a popular jazz bar in northeast Baltimore, in the early hours on Sept. 20.

He was a well-known figure in the Baltimore community, and his funeral drew a crowd of thousands.

Politicians, friends, constituents and family members alike gathered to pay their respects.

Prominent members of Maryland state government present were Gov. Martin O'Malley and State's Attorney Patricia Jessamy, along with many other City Council members.

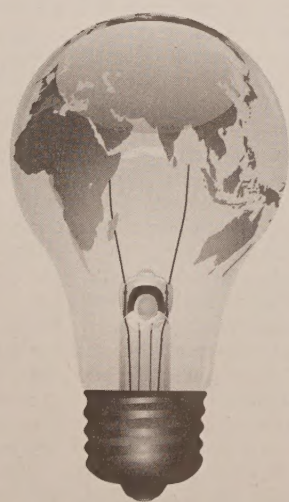
Speakers included Baltimore County Democrat Rep. C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, who praised Harris for his work on the city council.

Harris's daughter Nicole also addressed the crowd, and his mother Sylvia announced the creation of a memorial fund in her son's name that is dedicated to fighting crime and promoting community safety.

Prior to the funeral, thousands of mourners filtered in and out of the viewings at Huber Memorial Church and March Funeral Home to bid farewell to Harris, who was a Baltimore city councilman from 1999 to 2007.

Members of the Northeast Baltimore community held a rally in front of the New Haven Lounge. The "Enough is Enough" rally celebrated Harris's life and his hard work in the community, including his strong commitment to combating violence and crime in the city.

— Rebecca Fishbein

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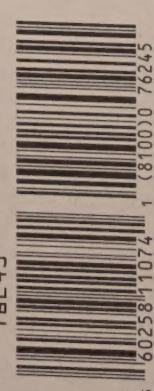
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## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

## National foreclosure trend hits B'more hard

By DANIEL FURMAN  
For the News-Letter

The implosion of the nation's housing market and the resetting of sub-prime mortgage rates have hit Baltimore hard, resulting in 1,199 foreclosures so far for 2008, a number on track to exceed last year's figures of 3,090 and grow upwards of 4,000.

While current foreclosures numbers do not exceed those in the early part of the decade — in both 2000 and 2001 there were over 5,000 in Baltimore — the recent increase in foreclosures comes after a period of several years, which saw these numbers decreasing.

Experts are confident that Baltimore will continue to weather the storm better than other mid-sized cities. Mathew Kachura, of University of Baltimore's Neighborhood Indicators Alliance, said that because Baltimore continues to undergo the painful transition from an industrial to primarily service-based economy — according to data compiled by the Baltimore Metropolitan Council.

Though the city saw a 20 percent decline in its manufacturing sector from 2002 to 2004, residents reliant on service jobs do not necessarily feel the bite of a retracting economy at the same rate that workers in manufacturing centers like Detroit and Cleveland do.

Kachura felt that this makes Baltimore's foreclosure rate "several years behind [the] national curve, which is also true for [the] economy."

More affluent neighborhoods, such as Charles Village, have thus far largely escaped high foreclosure rates. Kachura explained that this is mainly because the demographics of the community are not the same as those that were more likely to be given sub-prime loans.

"Thus far foreclosures have not hit emerging, gentrifying neighborhoods, where fewer properties are investor owned," Kahura said.

Anne Balcer-Norton, director of foreclosure prevention for St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center predicted that as those with traditional mortgages feel the pinch of a slowing economy, this could change.

"Communities that have never [been] affected are being affected [by foreclosure problems], communities like Canton. At this point, all demographics and income levels are being affected," she said.

The boom in the national economy, which has begun to deflate over the last two years, did enable many Baltimoreans to partake in the American dream of home ownership. Skyrocketing housing prices allowed others to borrow large sums of money based on the then market value of their homes. Lenders offered adjustable rate mortgage and refinancing to borrowers with so-called sub-prime credit rating.

"More in Baltimore were able to own a home and are now getting to a point where they can't afford it. The boom in the economy allowed people to purchase or refinance homes. The resetting of rates is forcing people out," Kachura said.

Kachura sees a statistical correlation in which older, less stable neighborhoods tend to be hit harder than neighborhoods with higher income levels.

Mary Warlow, director of Marketing for the Belair-Edison Neighborhoods Inc. agreed that in that community "minority and single female head of household lead filings in foreclosures."

Earlier this year the city filed suit against the bank Wells-Fargo claiming that it made discriminatory loans to minority borrowers.

"[The] case that the city is making [is] that there was racial targeting — African-Americans who could have gotten conventional mortgage were led into sub-prime loans, so there is clearly an indication that there was something wrong going on; whether illegal or not, that is for courts to decide," Director of the Baltimore Homeownership Preservation Coalition Sally Scott said.

Warlow stressed that foreclosures in Belair-Edison "haven't become an issue of blight yet. The numbers were stable from 2006 to 2007, which we considered kind of a victory."

She stated that for 2007 there were 155 filings in the commu-



DANIEL LITWIN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Baltimore has started to feel the weakening of the housing market that is felt throughout the nation.

nity. To date, there have been 130 this year.

Warlow estimated that one third of all foreclosures filings in Belair-Edison were against investor-owned properties, some of which had been unoccupied when they went into foreclosure. She estimated that one half of all other foreclosures in the community were against borrowers who were unable to keep up with monthly payments as rates went up.

There has been a concerted effort on the state, city and local community level to aid homeowners in or heading for foreclosure. In April Maryland adopted one of the most far-reaching mortgage laws in the nation by extending the period of foreclosure from 15 to 150 days.

Scott said that the Homeownership Preservation Coalition has "done well. We've pooled a diverse set of agencies and organizations together, but our main product has been information. This will not help somebody save their house."

Jennifer Jones, a housing counselor with the Belair-Edison Neighborhoods Inc., was optimistic that community education efforts had reached the targeted populations.

"Residents are very aware of [the] crisis. They know where to go. Our association does a lot of marketing and outreach. Residents tell friends and family members.

Education is the main piece in preventing foreclosures," she said.

Jones approximated that half her clients were aware they signed on to a loan that was not fixed-rate, though it was not clear whether borrowers understood the full implications. Nevertheless, Jones said most of her clients feel regrets.

As Congress and the nation debate how to prevent a collapse in the credit market while rewarding neither irresponsible lending or borrowing, Scott is cautiously optimistic about the future.

"I don't think the number of foreclosures is going to go down. Foreclosures have spread beyond the sub-prime to conventional mortgage market. Numbers will keep rising into 2009, but with good outreach and federal support we will be able to help more homeowners stay in their homes," Scott said.

Jones, who sees four to six clients a day, felt that a sense of personal responsibility and concerted community effort to help keep residents in their homes stands out as particularly Baltimorean.

She had previously worked as housing counselor in a large Atlantic seaboard city "where most of the communities [are] not as strong as in Baltimore, where community has own association. Baltimore is unique in that way."

## Md. police authorized by Ehrlich official to spy on activists

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Maryland," the ACLU attorney on the case David Rocah said. "This reflects the ACLU's strong belief that the subject of Sachs' investigation was only a part of a much broader effort by the state police to improperly gather information."

O'Malley's office noted the possible transgressions of the State Police due to an investigation conducted by the Maryland chapter of the ACLU, in which the organization successfully sued the State Police for access to the documentation of surveillance records.

The documents revealed that State Police reported, in a covert capacity, on at least 27 different activists over a 14-month period from March 2005 to May 2006, resulting in 288 hours of surveillance.

Sheridan has since denounced the spying program and participated willingly in the investigation led by Stephen Sachs, an ACLU member and former Maryland attorney general who

was appointed by O'Malley to privately investigate the case.

"These types of inquiries, with no nexus to criminal activity ... will not be part of the future of the Maryland State Police," Sheridan reportedly said on July 25.

The trooper assigned to the Hopkins event noted that the protesters were respectful of city laws and maintaining the peace.

The Maryland State Police Department went through official and public censure over its surveillance of activist groups, which occurred during the Ehrlich administration.

"It was our lawsuit that disclosed the documents back in July that caused O'Malley to appoint Sachs and our call from the beginning was for a full, thorough and transparent accounting of what happened," Rocah said. "The report that Sachs has done is that and has done that."

One of the earliest State Police surveillance reports begins with

an unidentified trooper who "attended an organizational meeting in Takoma Park in an undercover capacity."

This March 15, 2005 report detailed the meeting events, named attendees and listed the group's discussion topics, which included "soliciting donations for signs."

The ACLU learned that such investigations led to the listing of group members in terror databases and even arrests.

Max Obuszewski has a group Pledge of Resistance, which is called a "security threat group" by the State Police. This group describes itself as "committed to non-violent resistance" and "utilizing the practices and philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr."

Obuszewski was found listed in the Maryland High Intensity Drug Trafficking Database, and was listed as a terrorism suspect.

He was also arrested while protesting the Iraq War at the National Security Administration, also located in Maryland.

In other reports, two Catholic nuns are listed as terror suspects, according to Sachs's report.

The Police Superintendent's Office insisted that all surveillance of these groups permanently ceased in 2006. Greg Shipley of the Maryland State Police confirmed that surveillance ended with the Hopkins event.

"I believe that this report is an accurate account of the operative facts of the events in question and the law and regulations applicable to the State Police's conduct," Sachs said, when presenting his completed report to O'Malley. "The report also makes observations and recommendations that I hope you will find constructive."

State Police have accepted all of Sachs's recommendations, which include "binding regulations that govern covert surveillance of 'advocacy' or 'protest' groups," establish standards for collection and dissemination of criminal

intelligence and review the listing of all individuals in state databases of suspected involvement in terrorism.

But Sachs still indicated continuing doubt.

"I believe that MSP's 14-month undercover investigation of anti-death penalty and anti-war groups would fall somewhere in the middle of these cases with respect to the constitutional concerns that they raise," he said.

Chairman of the State Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, Senator Brian Frosh, expressed similar doubts.

"I think the surveillance was illegal under some of the regulations of the Federal Homeland Security money that the state receives," he said.

But Frosh noted that the actions were most likely permissible under Maryland State law.

"There are arguments that this surveillance violated the constitutional rights of the protesters — I don't know," Frosh said.

There will be a hearing on the surveillance issue before Frosh and his committee next week. The ACLU's top lawyers will be in attendance to present their case.

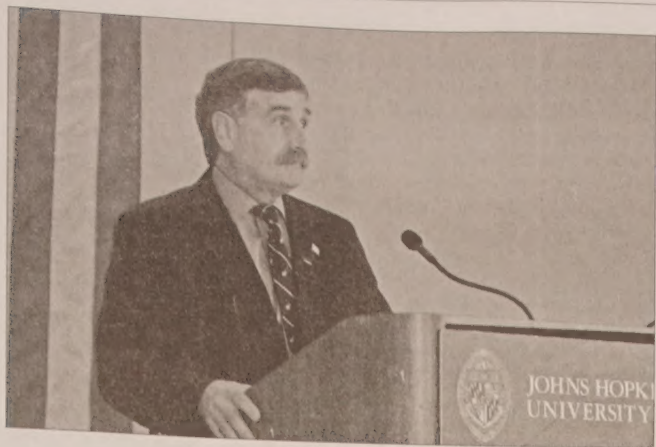
The ACLU, among others, believes that Wednesday's proceedings are still not enough to protect the citizens of Maryland from unreasonable surveillance.

Rocah explained that police codes are often written "behind closed doors."

"It should not be up to whim or good will what the rules are. They should be written by the people through their elected representatives," Rocah said.

According to the Rocah, disturbing parallels exist between the increasing focus on counter-terrorism at the national level and infringement on civil liberties in the states.

Sachs cited the increasing pervasive attitude of "better safe than sorry," as an underlying problem and rationale in police decision-making.



DANIEL LITWIN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Pelura was part of Hopkins Engaged efforts to bring political speakers to Fall Fest.

## Poor weather has little effect on Fall Fest turnout

CONTINUED FROM A1

September which garnered more than 1,500 students. For the third year running, Zeffert and Gold provided catering, which received overall positive reviews from the student body.

"The food is pretty good. It's way better than the FFC. But I'm hungry, so I'll eat anything," sophomore Will Choi said.

The relatively small size of the Glass Pavilion was unable to shelter the hundreds of students who came to eat and socialize from Friday's ongoing rain showers. Many students were deterred by the crowd and long lines and simply went back to their dorms after they received food from the caterers.

"The cookout was fine. I enjoyed the food," sophomore Alice Wu said. "But the tables were packed, the room [was] so full, and there were students [who] were sitting outside of the Glass Pavilion too. All you could do was get your food and go back."

"It sucks that we weren't able to enjoy the beginning of Fall Fest with a day on the Beach like we do every year. I miss seeing cute kids playing with the dogs and the freshmen playing Ultimate Frisbee," computer science major Jeremy Weiss said.

"It's unlucky that it had to rain, but I don't think it does too much to lessen the movie experience. You're out with your friends to have a good time and enjoy the movie. Don't forget the free popcorn either," graduate student Amanuel Alemu said.

The major showcase of this year's Fall Fest was the premiere of Hopkins Engaged, the focal event of both Fall Fest and the Young Alumni Weekend. As the brainchild of sophomore Dan Teran, the aim of Hopkins Engaged was to make political activism approachable and attractive to the largely apathetic Hopkins's undergraduates.

Many of Saturday's events were hindered by the intensification through the night of Tropic Storm Kyle. According to an Emergency Department official, Baltimore received five inches of rain and experienced its worst flooding since 2004.

Aside from Hopkins Engaged, the most anticipated event of Fall Fest was the Verizon Wireless Concert Tour sponsored by Hopkins Organization for Programming and Hopkins Engaged. As musical acts are usually held in The Ralph O'Connor Recreation

Center, dwindling rain did not discourage students from packing the recreation center. The live opening acts varied from indie sensation Lights to the power pop of Cute is What We Aim For.

"The rain sucks, but what can you do? You just gotta keep playing," bassist for Cute is What We Aim For Fred Cimato said.

The main act of the evening was alternative rock band Boys Like Girls. The musicians entertained more Hopkins students compared to any other Fall Festival attraction.

"Lights? Wow ... She's definitely a cutie. I kind of want her," a sophomore who wished to remain anonymous said.

For students unwilling to pay \$10 for concert tickets but were interested in taking risks, Casino Night at Levering's Great Hall allowed students to play a variety of games such as blackjack, craps, hold'em, poker and roulette. Many students who attended Casino Night were impressed by the professionalism of the event.

"I liked it a lot. It definitely should've gone on longer though, because more people showed up by the end. They probably came after the concert. What got me was how

legit they were. Not just kids at a plastic table but actual gambling tables with people hired to be dealers and everything," applied mathematics major Eileen Huang said.

After the concert and casino night, many students trekked through rain puddles to the Glass Pavilion for the traditional and popular Fall Fest Breakfast. At 12:01 a.m. on Sunday, students enjoyed a buffet full of various breakfast treats of eggs, pancakes, sausage patties and more.

"It's great to have a place to relax after a night out or studying, and you can't complain about free food," sophomore biology major Chukwudi Utomi said.

More than 700 students showed up for breakfast in the Glass Pavilion, though most ended up waiting in long lines before getting their meals. Some students, though, were displeased with the taste of the course offerings.

"The midnight breakfast wasn't very good. I tried most of the stuff, but they were out of pancakes, and I remember the eggs were definitely fake. By the time I finished and wanted seconds, the line was extremely long and I was like 'Screw it' and left," chemical and biomolecular engineer major Jeffrey Chu said.

ence and those previously unfiliated with the SGA.

"We wanted to choose a couple people who are familiar with how we run things, but it's also exciting to have new people who we can count on to be totally unbiased if it comes down to it," she said.

Not all of those affiliated with the SGA, however, are satisfied with the new selections.

Junior Evan Lazerowitz applied for a spot on the Judiciary Committee this year after losing the Vice Presidential election in the spring.

As he was one of the original writers of the Constitution, he said he felt that he would have been a qualified judge.

"I understand that [the SGA] wanted to choose an impartial board, but anyone can look at a decision and say 'This is right'

or 'This is wrong.' Every judge is a lawyer first for a reason, and I had first hand experience dealing with the SGA, while a lot of these [new members] have had little to no experience," Lazerowitz said.

According to Chandrasekhar, this Committee will be a very distinct and separate body from the SGA, which was why experience wasn't a prerequisite for application to the Committee.

Pines said that the main reason he applied for the Committee was because he wanted to work on the behind-the-scenes operations that make a Government function.

"We want the SGA to function efficiently but also fairly, and that can be a difficult balance. In this case, the SGA felt the need to draw a line of separation between the groups; The SGA will

work on being efficient, and we [the Judiciary Committee] will make sure that things are still fair and just," Pines said.

Several SGA members, including Jacob, expressed the opinion that last year's elections would have turned out differently had there been a Judiciary Committee in existence at the time.

"If we had had a Judiciary Committee [last spring], the election wouldn't have been so controversial," Jacob said.

Pines said that he hopes to keep the Judiciary Committee a constitution-based group.

"As the SGA went through this whole restructure, the separation of powers became so important. Now, they can focus on getting things done, and we can focus on resolving disputes, and making sure they're sticking to their own laws."

## SGA appoints five students to Judiciary Committee positions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

any member of the Association, as well as students who seemed to show a particularly strong enthusiasm for constitutionality.

Buicko and Nelson have each had experience on the SGA. Nelson served as Executive Treasurer last year, and Buicko was Vice President for her Class Council two years ago.

However, these individuals are no longer so invested in SGA affairs that their judgments will be skewed in any way, according to SGA President Prasanna Chandrasekhar.

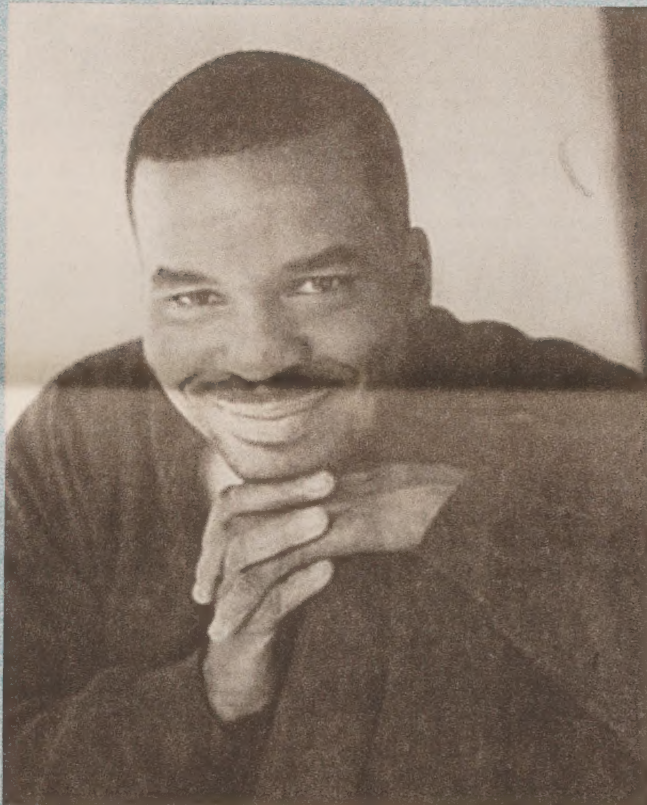
"Since these students are chosen especially for being unbiased and impartial, we know they're going to make the best decisions," he said.

Jacob said she agreed that it was important to create a balanced mix of those with experi-

# Family Weekend 2008 and MSE Symposium Presents:

Friday October 31, 2008

Comedian David Allen Grier  
(General Admission)  
8:00 PM Shriver Auditorium

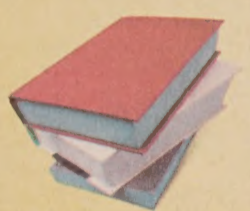


Tickets are \$25 for JHU Parents & Siblings.  
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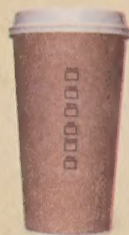
Tickets may be purchased at the  
Office of the Dean of Student Life  
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# Campus Essentials

Don't leave your dorm without:



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Frisbee



Breakfast



Tunes



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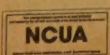
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# Prof. Rosenkoetter espouses ethical advice

By RISHI TRIVEDI  
Staff Writer

Timothy Rosenkoetter, a visiting professor, brings a wealth of knowledge and experience with him to Hopkins this year as a philosophy professor specializing in ethics philosophy and the works of Immanuel Kant.

Rosenkoetter was born in Illinois and raised in a small city in Kansas. As the son of two professors, he has had the opportunity to travel vastly in the United States with family, often for six to seven weeks at a time during the summer recess. Rosenkoetter found this to be both enjoyable and educational, and he found that his travels of the country sparked an interest in exploring and learning.

Rosenkoetter first began his undergraduate studies at Bowdoin College in Maine, where he planned on majoring in mathematics and economics, the two subject areas he found most interesting. However in order to “learn to think better,” Rosenkoetter also took some courses in philosophy and discovered a new passion.

Philosophy offered Rosenkoetter a “plethora of interesting puzzles,” driving him to pursue the subject to wherever it led him.

Rosenkoetter recalled his first year at college as an experience where he first began to satiate his “hunger for knowledge” and discovered like-minded people around him. As he continued his undergraduate studies, now

with his mind set on pursuing a degree in philosophy, he decided that he would benefit from studying at more than just one university.

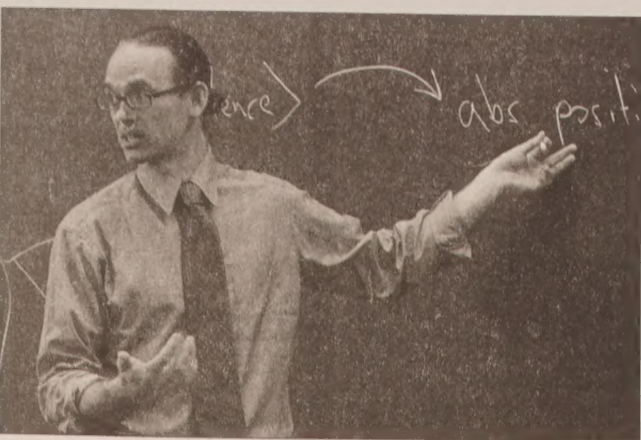
After taking a break from Bowdoin, he studied abroad in Munich, Germany. Rosenkoetter then transferred to Harvard University, where he continued his studies in philosophy. As a graduate student, Rosenkoetter later returned to the city of Bochum in Germany to continue studying his favorite philosopher, Immanuel Kant.

After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from Harvard, Rosenkoetter began his graduate work at the University of Pittsburg, but eventually transferred and received his doctoral degree in philosophy from University of Chicago for his work on Kant.

Rosenkoetter first received an appointment as a postdoctoral fellow at University of Georgia. Next he worked as a visiting professor at Dartmouth, New York University and finally University of the South, Sewanee before accepting a position as visiting professor here at Hopkins.

Rosenkoetter’s frequent and widespread travels around the country have given him a very distinct view on life and a thirst for knowledge that he hopes to share with all Hopkins undergraduates.

“[Education] gives us the tools necessary to make good moral



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
Rosenkoetter, a visiting professor of philosophy, reflects on years of Kantian study.

decisions” and “habituates the task of making decisions,” Rosenkoetter said.

Rosenkoetter believes there are two ways to practice philosophy after studying it so thoroughly: If one finds philosophy intrinsically worthwhile, then one should think for one’s own reasons. If one wants to see the effect of philosophy on real life, one should explore philosophy in a way so that it can be taught and explained to the public through real applications. Since Rosenkoetter believes both have equal importance, he has chosen a medium between the two by working as a professor, where he can explore philosophical concepts and still demonstrate how philosophy applies to real

life.

“People are not often aware of the moral questions they face; It is more than just the morality of punishable crimes. Moral decisions are made every day,” Rosenkoetter pointed out.

This is evident, he added, when one simply observes the college atmosphere. Decisions such as drinking, drug usage, sexual relationships and academic dishonesty are among the most significant decisions college students face. Although not always viewed as moral decisions, they have a distinct level of ethical choice. Rosenkoetter believes that college teaches students to think for themselves, to think problems through thoroughly and to analyze their decisions.

# Hopkins hospital offers alternative medicine

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1  
sometimes have harmful effects, so it is the doctor’s goal to incorporate them in a way that is not only effective but also safe for the patient.

“The idea is to do it in a way that’s safe but [also] addresses all the issues for patients: mind, body, spirit and any other psychosocial issues [they] might have as well,” Rowland-Seymour said.

With the increasing popularity of alternative medicine, numerous medical schools now offer courses on the subject. An article published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* noted that of the 117 United States medical schools surveyed, 64 percent offer electives in CAM.

In last year’s course catalog, the School of Medicine only offered one elective in CAM: “The Philosophy and Practice of Healing and Complementary Medicine.”

“Students will ... gain an appreciation of the philosophy, validity and effectiveness of different health and healing paradigms (i.e. non-biomedical) in the treatment of patients,” the catalog noted.

A new curriculum instated in fall 2009, modeled after the changes at the Hospital, will give undergraduates as well as graduate students the opportunity to take a variety of classes on CAM during Intersession, according to Patricia Thomas, associate dean for Curriculum at the Hopkins School of Medicine.

“An afternoon in each of our Intersessions is going to be devoted to what we refer to as restorative medicine. That’s going to be an opportunity for students to participate in other forms of healing such as yoga, meditation or mindfulness training,” Thomas said.

According to Thomas, the Medical School’s pain care, chronic and end-of-life care curriculum will also incorporate the use of CAM treatments in ensuring patient comfort.

Katherine Su, senior and vice president of the undergraduate pre-medical honor society Alpha Epsilon Delta (AED), said she felt that integrative medicine has a valuable role in the treatment of disease, despite common skepticism in the Western world.

“The Chinese people have been using herbal medicine and acupuncture for thousands of years,” Su said. “And for them, it’s been working.”

Su said the hospital’s decision to incorporate integrative medicine was an important step in advancing medical knowledge.

“If we just confine ourselves to Western medicine and we are really skeptical about alternative ways of curing disease, we don’t really progress,” she said. “I think it’s an important thing.”

Senior and AED President Stephanie Huang said that the holism of integrative medicine could have a positive effect on patients.

“You have to remember that medicine is not just treating a disease. You have to treat the body and the mind. Alternative medicine addresses that,” she said.

Huang felt that Hopkins’s worldwide medical reputation could help legitimize alternative medicine in the eyes of skeptics.

“I think if you tag the Johns Hopkins name to anything it gives it more credibility, just because Hopkins has such a world-renowned reputation for being the lead institution in medicine,” she said. “I think it could potentially start a trend across the nation.”

Freshman Akshay Krishnaswamy felt that integrative medicine could be beneficial when used alongside traditional treatments.

“I don’t think it can replace actual medicines and scientifically proven therapies like antibiotics or treatments that involve scientific and peer-reviewed methods,” Krishnaswamy said. “I think if it’s just going to be alongside other methods, then it’s a really good idea.”

According to a survey from the Centers for Disease Control, 36 percent of adults 18 and over have employed alternative medicine to treat a disease. The most common treatments used were herbal remedies, deep breathing exercises, meditation and chiropractic care.

Rowland-Seymour said that the clinic is open to anyone, not just patients in the Hospital. The services that the clinic provides are acupuncture, massage therapy, nutritional treatments, psychotherapy and movement therapy to relieve neck and back pain.

The hospital is also conducting research on CAM treatments. Currently, three research projects are underway. The first hopes to discover the role of CAM therapy in cancer treatments. The second investigates CAM treatments for reducing pain in patients. The third studies the role of fish oils in maintaining the body weight of patients with pancreatic cancer.

Since many CAM treatments have not been verified through the use of clinical trials, the Hospital’s research will help scientists learn more about the effectiveness of integrative therapies.

# Hopkins Engaged experiences low student turnout

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

“I think our efforts for Hopkins Engaged set precedent for an innovative means of programming, and unfortunately this year our event was largely foiled by poor weather,” Teran said.

Some of the students who attended Hopkins Engaged expressed their dissatisfaction with the event, noting the lack of political diversity of the invited groups. Many of the undergraduate students were skeptical that any particular event could rally the campus community to be politically conscious.

“I didn’t find the political portion of Hopkins Engaged to be that interesting,” sophomore Mike Maiale said. “I don’t think Hopkins students ever would have been really interested in spending a lot of time walking around among tables from radical political groups. The lack of political diversity was disappointing.”

According to Teran, the City of Baltimore Office of Emergency Management confirmed that on Saturday, the day of Hopkins Engaged, the city received the most rain it has had in five years.

“We think that while we didn’t get as many people as we wanted due to rain, the event was a success,” Yopes said. “It ran smoothly, the speakers were interesting and got students engaged in what they were saying, and the groups that attended were interesting and had useful information.”

According to Yopes, the funding for Hopkins Engaged was under the projected budget. The planners are still working on the reimbursement.

Originally planned to be held on the Gilman Quad, the downpour of rain forced most of Saturday’s events into the confines of the Glass Pavilion and Levering’s Great Hall.

Live music, political speakers, beer and food vendors and various political groups both on and off campus participated in this celebration of American politics with lackluster turnout.

“I thought it was a great attempt by the organizers to get students interested and involved in politics. It’s unfortunate that it had to rain on this particular day,” Geoffrey Miller, Washington DC’s Chapter President of Iraq Veterans Against the War, said.

According to both Yopes and Burger, no student groups were refunded because they had already signed contracts.

“Engaged was established to capitalize on the election year

and possibly establish a tradition as part of Fall Fest,” Dean of Undergraduate Education Paula Burger said.

The scheduled speakers, Chairman of the Maryland Republican Party Jim Pelura, Brad Heavner, State Director of the Environment Maryland Research & Policy Center and state director of Maryland Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) and Miller addressed current political issues.

Musical performers during the daytime event included Lucky Strike, Dactyl Dactyl, DJ Altitude Sickness, Clare Huxtable and Wale.

Student groups, local and national political groups set up booths with representatives where they explained their purpose, interacted with those at Hopkins Engaged and distributed information. Groups that attended ranged from those supporting the environment such as Powervote.org, to Students for Choice, Amnesty International, Skatepark of Baltimore and JHU Votes.

“It was nice to be informed about so many political issues without having to go off campus,” freshman Emily Trogolo said.

The speakers and groups brought forth a variety of political concerns

pertinent to the upcoming election, the country and the future of the world. Political apathy among young voters, the economy, the war in Iraq and the environment were among the issues that received at-

Powervote.org was encouraging student voting as part of the group’s goal to obtain 1,000,000 young people across the country to pledge to make clean energy a priority when they cast their votes.

Miller spoke of grassroots groups and involvement in the community as being effective ways that students can bring about change and use their power as student activists.

“Change doesn’t happen because you cast a ballot,” Miller said. “Candidates act because we push them to.”

Speakers Pelura and Heavner as well as student group Students for Environmental Action (SEA) addressed environmental concerns.

“We are trying to raise awareness on how to live a sustainable life by trying to introduce ideas to help people live better,” said Mike Rogers, a sophomore member of SEA.

“All options should be on the table,” said Pelura in reference to

sources of alternative energy.

Miller addressed another issue during his speech at Hopkins Engaged: the current war in Iraq.

“I don’t want people to end the war because they feel bad for soldiers,” said Miller.

“I want them to end the war because it’s the right thing to do.”

He spoke about how people need to “challenge the traditional narratives of war.”

Miller pointed out that the movies and war accounts that the public receives are usually not from veterans themselves, and therefore this is the time when the “narratives of those who have been involved become important.”

All of the speakers addressed the motivations and planning behind Hopkins Engaged in addition to the concerns and issues of their speeches.

“Hopkins Engaged is a great concept,” Heavner said. “It makes a difference to go out there and be engaged to show that college students are not apathetic.”

# Peruvian human rights defenders address JHU audience

By GISELLE CHANG  
Staff Writer

Ronald Gamarra and Gisella Ortiz gave moving first hand accounts of former Peruvian President Fujimori’s controversial violations of human rights to an apt audience of students and faculty on Wednesday night.

The lecture was conducted in Spanish, which shrunk the audience to a Spanish-speaking crowd, so the *News-Letter* has translated the content to the best of its efforts.

Ortiz, one of Peru’s most active human rights defenders, whose brother was one of the 10 university students killed in the 1992 “Masacre de la Cantuta” during the Fujimori regime, broke into tears multiple times while sharing her experiences.

In October 1993, limited remains of the victims of the massacre were found off a highway between Lima and the University of Cantuta.

“Of all that we family members have suffered, the worst and what I can’t forget after all these years, is seeing my brother that way; with his head against his chest, his hands tied behind his back and the four shots in his head, which killed him. It’s unbearable because I always have this image of him been young, joking, and happy and finding him in this state...” Ortiz said.

Ortiz explained the repression of Fujimori’s regime that predated the massacre and how the military operated with the stigma that all students were ter-

rorists.

“In May 1991, the Fujimori regime ordered a military intervention in many of the universities. Military personnel controlled student activities as well as movement ... many students rejected the intervention and the military personnel reacted violently. Almost 70 students were kept in detention for 15 days by counterterrorist police,” she said.

“The library was completely ruined. Books that contained suspicious content were burned and courses on philosophy as well as history were completely taken out of the curriculum.”

Ortiz’s determined struggle to uncover the truth concerning the disappearance of her brother was met with complete rejection by the government.

“We went to the police center. We didn’t know what had happened. We asked people at the University who claimed not to know anything. We searched for two months and got no answers,” she explained. “We had to bring in documents like ID cards and University enrollment forms and clothing to prove that our family members existed!”

The government appeared to share the family member’s preoccupation by launching investigations. The investigations yielded three hypotheticals to what could have had happened to the 10 persons.

“One: They ran off with their love interests — eloped, in other words. Two: They joined subversive groups — anti-government groups — and thus are not be-

ing heard from. Three: They were kidnapped,” Ortiz recalled.

Gamarra, one of the Peruvian lawyers who represented victims in the trial against Fujimori, shed some light on the arduous process of the first prosecution of a former ruler in an ordinary judicial court.

“The military persons we questioned claimed to have no information concerning the murderers of political opponents,” he explained. “Judging Fujimori was even more complicated. There were 26 charges in total: 19 for corruption and seven for violations of human rights.”

While the case itself was proving difficult, the trial was further postponed by Fujimori’s retreat, first to Japan and then to Chile. Both countries protected the Peruvian politician, refusing to hand him over.

“Japan granted Fujimori Japanese citizenship, which is ridiculous since everything he has done in the past, including visiting Japan, he has done as a Peruvian citizen!” Gamarra said.

Once in Peruvian custody, new difficulties arose with Fujimori’s defense.

Because the trial hinged on the fact that everyone, including a president, is equal under the laws of the country and must answer for crimes, Fujimori was given a good lawyer and all the necessary documents to prepare a defense.

“His defense was unbelievable. His lawyer said that unless there was a written document in Fujimori’s hand in which he di-



COURTESY OF HTTP://GOOGLE.COM  
Ronald Gamarra, a Peruvian lawyer, is famous for working on the Fujimori trial.

rectly ordered a group of students or professors to be killed then Fujimori could not be charged with having ordered executions,” Gamarra said.

As of April 10, 2008, Fujimori has been sentenced to six years in prison.

“We wanted to guarantee a fair trial. This isn’t a call for vengeance. [It’s] simply justice. Presidents should be judged not on a political, but on a fair basis. The rights of all accused must be respected,” Gamarra said.

Gamarra is currently the executive director of the Coordinadora Nacional de Derechos Humanos del Peru (National Coalition of Peruvian Human Rights Organizations) as well as a professor at the Universidad Mayor de San Marcos in Lima. Ortiz continues actively fighting impunity as a representative of victims in Peru.

## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

## Boys, don't let books get in the way of your game

Last week, my friends and I played a game of personalized Guess Who? in which all the faces were hand-drawn caricatures of our closest friends. We used all kinds of embarrassing stories to guess who, and eventually the question came up, "has your person hooked up with anyone else on the board?" which led to a delightful rehashing of everyone's previous coupling.

To my great surprise, nearly half of the sketched faces fell under this category. Some may consider this an adorable and inevitable coupling of friends à la *When Harry Met Sally*, but I take it to mean that the guys have to start trying harder.

It's easy to lay a friend; you can both laugh about it in the morning and spend the next few years trying to forget it ever happened. The real trick is getting a new girl to come home with you.

Unfortunately, guys, your game is weak. Any lady who has ever been hit on by a college boy knows that his method will fall into one of three categories:

**Method One:** Boy buys girl a drink at PJ's and tries to make her feel like His Only One by directing all of his attention towards her while the other 43 girls he's hooked up with this semester give her dirty looks. Conversation will either focus on his intrinsic charms and athletic prowess or how much he respects women and just wants someone to love. Sweetheart, we can smell your STDs from a mile away.

**Method Two:** Boy sees girl at the Den and saunters up to her with a cigarette behind his ear. Thankfully, loud music makes conversation impossible and he can let his hands do the talking. After a few minutes of non-rhythmic, sweaty, drunken grinding, he thinks his sick dance skills have seduced the girl and invites her to have a cigarette outside. Hint: Women know the second location trick. At least pretend you have something other than sex on the mind.

**Method Three:** Boy sees girl from class studying for a test in MSE and thinks it's his chance. He timidly asks a question about the material they both know he knows the answer to. Once girl has given him the answer, boy smiles and thanks her, lingers too long and then leaves, wondering why she didn't offer to bring him back to her place for

more "studying." Try harder, guys. We may be just as desperate as you, but we do have some pride.

I've been hearing these three methods on repeat for the past four years, so it was quite a relief when I found myself being wooed by a beautiful, rugged, out-of-state engineer. We talked about *Fight Club* and the human condition for an hour before I took him home.

We opened a bottle of wine and wound up in my bed when he went for my shirt. Playing coy, I resisted his attempts to undress me (even though we all know what an orgasmic experience it is to have meaningless sex with someone you won't run into at the MSE on a Sunday afternoon).

He respectfully stopped clawing at my top and instead opted to pull me in close and whisper into my ear: "You know, we are transferring heat in three different ways right now."

*Becky chokes a little and tries very hard not to laugh (or cry) as she takes a pause to determine how best to reply ... sh\*t! Pause getting too long.*

Default to: "Oh, really?" *I hope he isn't serious.*

"Yep. Conductive, convective and radiative."

Oh God. "Conductive means that every time I touch you, we transfer heat."

Reaching for pants ...

"Convective means that every time I taste you, every time I smell you, you transfer some of your heat to me."

Oh no, he did NOT just ...

"And radiative means that our body heat combines and we transfer heat to each other."

And Becky is fooled again. Maybe I'll pretend to go vomit in the bathroom so he'll leave.

Boys, let me say on behalf of all of the women in the world, please leave your homework out of the bedroom. Please God, leave your homework out of the bedroom.

Then again, maybe this situation proves that I'm being cynical about the Guess Who? game. Maybe in five years I will be attending the weddings of all of my friends who have systematically coupled up over time.

But wouldn't it be far more fun to have a series of fun and meaningless trysts instead? All I'm saying is there would be more sexing if women never had to hear the words "heat transfer" between the sheets. Just a hint, guys.

## Alcohol and medication: a dangerous cocktail

My roommate suffers from atrocious allergies. Her immune system is generally shot, which I attribute to the ludicrous amounts of work she does, and she is likely to contract a semi-lethal strain of *streptococcus* and be down for the count for the next eight weeks if anyone within a radius of seven kilometers sniffs.

As such, my friend uses copious amounts of pain relievers for her Hopkins-induced migraines, gargantuan antihistamines for her allergies to her feline house slugs and constant antibiotics for the frequent death syndromes she contracts.

But alas! She loves to drink. She is generally afflicted with more than one atrocity at a time, and we know that mixing drugs with alcohol is a bad thing. What should she avoid?

It seems that over the counter pain relievers are the most common drugs present in every medicine cabinet. Aspirin, ibuprofen (Motrin and Advil), acetaminophen (Excedrin and Tylenol), and naproxen sodium (Aleve) are just a few of the drugs used by athletes, bleeding females, cranky *News-Letter* editors and klutzes worldwide.

Aspirin works as a pain reliever by suppressing the body's production of thromboxanes and prostaglandins. Thromboxanes facilitate blood clotting and prostaglandins are hormones involved in inflammation and transmitting pain signals to the brain.

By inhibiting thromboxane and prostaglandin assembly, aspirin works as both anticoagulant and pain reliever. Ibuprofen also suppresses the production of prostaglandin and helps to suppress pain and inflammation.

Because both aspirin and ibuprofen inhibit prostaglandins, pain transmission is reduced. But alas, another function of prostaglandins is also inhibited. Certain prostaglandins are important in maintaining a healthy stomach lining by protecting against stomach acid. By inhibiting production of prostaglandins, aspirin and ibuprofen increase the risk of stomach lining inflammation and stomach ulcers.

At the same time, both aspirin and ibuprofen function as blood thinners (their anticoagulant property), as does alcohol. Increased blood thinness could potentially cause internal bleeding.

Aspirin and ibuprofen use

while drinking can increase the effects of alcohol on the body. Both drugs prevent the enzyme alcohol dehydrogenase from breaking down alcohol, so the effects of alcohol are stronger and longer-lasting.

Next: Tylenol. Acetaminophen, the active ingredient in Tylenol, is thought to reduce pain and fever by inhibiting a different type of prostaglandin, but its anti-inflammatory activity is very weak. Regardless of its mechanism, acetaminophen can cause acute liver damage when overdosed or mixed with alcohol.

Acetaminophen is metabolized in the liver. The molecule undergoes sulphation and glucuronidation (it gets attached to fancy chemicals) and then is eliminated. If too much acetaminophen is ingested, these mechanisms are overwhelmed and acetaminophen is instead processed by the Cytochrome P-450 pathway.

Unfortunately, in this alternative pathway, acetaminophen is turned into a toxic metabolite called NAPQI. If too much NAPQI is produced, it accumulates in the liver and causes damage. Alcohol adds to this problem by increasing the activity of the Cytochrome P-450 pathway, re-

sulting in significantly increased amounts of NAPQI and sometimes even resulting in fatal conditions like liver failure.

Now that we are well-versed in the ill effects caused by mixing alcohol and anti-pain pop-corn, let us examine the allergy dilemma.

With almost all antihistamines, including diphenhydramine (Benadryl), loratadine (Claritin and Alavert), and pseudoephedrine (Sudafed), alcohol consumption will increase the risk of dizziness and drowsiness, which will also increase the risk of accidental injury. So while it probably won't kill you to mix your Alavert with your gin and tonic, it'd be wise to wear bubble wrap and a helmet too.

For the common cold and cough and evils like the flu and mono, you will very likely just want to die in a pile of watermelon, ice cream boxes, orange juice containers and yogurt. If you come down with something non-viral and identifiable (unfortunately not the case with our dear editor), you may be prescribed

antibiotics.

Ironically, most antibiotics will not cause you much harm should you choose to drink while popping. Of course, moderation is essential, and certain antibiotics, particularly Metronidazole and Tinidazole, could potentially cause stomach irritation, nausea, pain, or other maleficent side effects.

In some cases, alcohol may even diminish the effectiveness of the antibiotic, so it's best to check with your doctor before drinking, because each antibiotic is different.

Ah! So we may conclude then that my close friend is mostly safe from the effects of self-treatment. While she, and you, dear readers, should always avoid drinking while taking mild pain medication (although I'm sure it seems like a sure way to kill the pain), be extra careful if you're a sneezer or a wheezer and you have the urge to toss a few down.

It's best to check everything with your doctor, especially if you're on prescription medications, and when in doubt, don't mix anything.

... you should always avoid drinking while taking mild pain medication ... when in doubt, don't mix anything.

## Pete's Grille serves up gold medal breakfast

Walking into Pete's Grille, I was greeted by a sign hanging over the soda fountain that read: "There Will Be A \$5 Charge For Whining." However, there was certainly nothing for me to complain about during my delightful Sunday morning dining experience at this popular local eatery.

Pete's gained national acclaim as the choice breakfast location of Michael Phelps, the greatest Olympian of all time. So I decided to make the short trip to see what Pete's was all about.

Located on the corner of Greenmount Avenue and 32nd Street, Pete's has only about 22 counter seats where you can sit and enjoy your meal, which means you should come early if you don't like lines. This also means that dining in a large group probably won't put you in the best of graces of those around you waiting for seats.

Don't let the fact that Pete's is on Greenmount (a street that



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Pete's offers simple, inexpensive comfort food in a friendly neighborhood setting.

Hopkins students usually avoid like the plague) deter you; Pete's stays open only until 2 p.m., so in the daytime it is a relatively safe, short walk.

My friend and I arrived at Pete's around 9:30 a.m. on Sunday to find the Grill packed with customers, but thankfully there were about six open seats. Upon sitting down, I noticed that all the employees there had shirts that said "PHELPS PHAN" in big letters on the back, with "Baltimore to Beijing '08" printed just below. The limited wall space was lined with awards and various antique signs and posters. The glass that surrounded most of the exterior of the restaurant displayed "Pete's Grille, The Place To Be" on each pane.

Glancing over the menu, I noticed that there was no "Phelps Special" offered. That's hardly surprising, since Phelps's breakfasts could probably feed a family of four and its neighbors. Each day after practice, Phelps usually eats several sandwiches, a five-egg omelet, grits, three slices of French toast and three chocolate chip pancakes. That's a bit much for me. I think I'll just get the pancakes, thanks.

They call them hotcakes at Pete's, and even that small slice of Phelps's breakfast was alarmingly large. The stack of three was about two inches tall, and about nine or 10 inches across. My friend ordered a vegetable omelet, which came with a choice of home fries or grits, as well as an order of toast. I like to get my dessert in the morning, so I ordered a strawberry milkshake as well. Little did I know that it would consist of five scoops of ice cream and that it would be served, well-blended, in a large metal cup because it wouldn't all fit in the glass. Now that's value.

Speaking of value, the pancakes were less than \$4.50, and the more expensive omelets were only about \$6.50, so prices were reasonable considering the food was splendid. One benefit of serving at most 20-odd customers is the fast service that comes

with it. I'd barely taken a good look around when my food was set before me. The pancakes were literally steaming as I cut them and continued to steam for about two minutes afterwards, so they had been served freshly-made.

If you really need more reasons to visit Pete's, here's another: The patrons were very interesting, and those who like to people-watch will have a blast. Over the sounds of the sizzling grill I heard shouts of "Later hon!" and "What can I getcha?" Regulars were greeted by name, and one waitress asked a certain Mr. White why he was getting take-out this morning. He said he was running late and figured he wouldn't be able to get a seat. He was about right; There

were only about two or three seats open at that point, and it was only 10 a.m.

Chatting with our waitress, we were informed that

there would be a parade for Michael Phelps on Saturday, beginning in Towson. Pete's staff would be marching in it, along with members of the Hopkins lacrosse team. She pulled out a tattered issue of *People Magazine* featuring Phelps and proudly pointed to a picture of Pete's Grille.

"See, that's us!" She had to virtually shout over the chatter of the warm and cozy environment.

Along the counter, I saw first-time visitors like us, regulars who were simply enjoying their morning paper and families with young children chatting animatedly and trying out each other's orders to see how they compared.

I don't know how Phelps does it, but I had a hard time just finishing my pancakes and milkshake. Pete's Grille certainly has a way of entertaining you and filling you up. I didn't eat again until dinner.

## PETE'S GRILLE

Location: 3130 Greenmount Ave.  
Cost: Moderate  
For Carry-out: (410) 467-7698  
Hours: Mon - Sat 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Sun 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Mad Men inspires sophistication, twists to classic fashion

Unless you were in Europe, Africa or Asia over the summer, you've probably heard that the new television series *Mad Men* is taking critics by storm. The acclaimed drama about the lives of advertising executives in the 1960s has drawn more than just a viewing audience. It has caught the eye of the fashion world for its conservative, well-structured costuming. Moreover, *Mad Men*'s wardrobe has crossed over into reality and much of this fall's men's fashion is tailored after it.

The flashy suits that models once paraded down the runways are history; Instead, tailored, well-cut suits in dark palettes replace them, with black dominating the scene. Subtle but distinguishing characteristics are being revived. A simple white pocket square in the breast pocket of any black, grey or brown suit can add sophistication and class that one would expect from the likes of a fashion magazine editor or designer. Add a simple gold or silver collar pin to accentuate the neck and tie and pair it with a tie bar of the same color. It's a touch of old school in a modern world. Trust me.

I recently went to a favorite store of mine in search of a fall jacket and was amazed to see American-style coats and jackets on display, considering the store was about as

European as it gets. What did I see over and over again? The bomber jacket: restyled and refreshed. That's right, that batty old jacket your uncle used to wear (or still does) has been trimmed down and redesigned with a bit of flair.

The elastic lining of the sleeve-ends and jacket-bottom are the same, but the zipper and short elastic collar are new. Some zippers have been replaced with buttons, either single- or double-breasted. Some have both an inner zipper lining and an outer button top. Others have moved the zipper off-center and at an angle. The elastic collar is gone, replaced by a classic trench coat collar or an extending collar that reaches up the neck, as a polo shirt with a popped collar

would (side note: Please don't pop your polo shirt collars).

Whatever the style or combination, the message is clear: There is a sharp American vintage influence behind this fall's fashion. Needless to say, I didn't need much persuasion and I walked out of the store with a new bomber-esque jacket.

This American influence doesn't stop at the new bombers; It sets a completely new trend as well. This season, blue collar fashion is on the rise. Believe it or not, runways have teamed up with clothing that now portrays coal miners and carpenters in a whole new light.

The focus is on plaid. Whether



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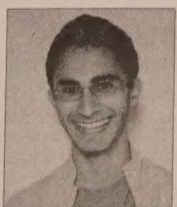
Conservative, well-structured fashion is making a comeback thanks to *Mad Men*.

it's a simple blue-green plaid button-down shirt or an Irish-inspired overcoat, the choices are endless.

If plaid is not your thing, pick up a leather or wool jacket with a nice big wooly-mammoth collar. Add worn-in jeans and some spectacularly beat-up boots and you'll have the style under your belt. You want to look like you work with your hands without actually having to do so.

And on an interesting side note, not that anyone would wear it, but the jumpsuit has appeared on more than one runway as well. Maybe it's just the return of old formula Schlitz beer from the '60s but good old American clothing sure looks good right now.

Ladies have a lot of choices this fall. First off, it's chic to be curvy. Now that the heroine chic of the '90s has died down (knock on wood), it's hip to have hips again. Skirts, jackets and dresses all highlight your body, so make your choices count. In particular, the pencil skirt is making a retro comeback and has been a must-

Siavash Raigani  
Hop Couture

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EDITORIALS

The birth of the Judiciary

Fundamental to any government is the existence of an independent and authoritative judiciary. This week, the Student Government Association (SGA) created a much needed and long overdue Judiciary Committee to adjudicate disputes over SGA proceedings and elections and to interpret the constitution and bylaws.

Its predecessor was the Appeals Committee that could hardly be considered impartial. Comprised of the Student Council President, an advisor and a third person selected by the President, the former system was inherently flawed. No matter how sincere its members were about enforcing the rules fairly, the lack of an independent body invalidated the Committee.

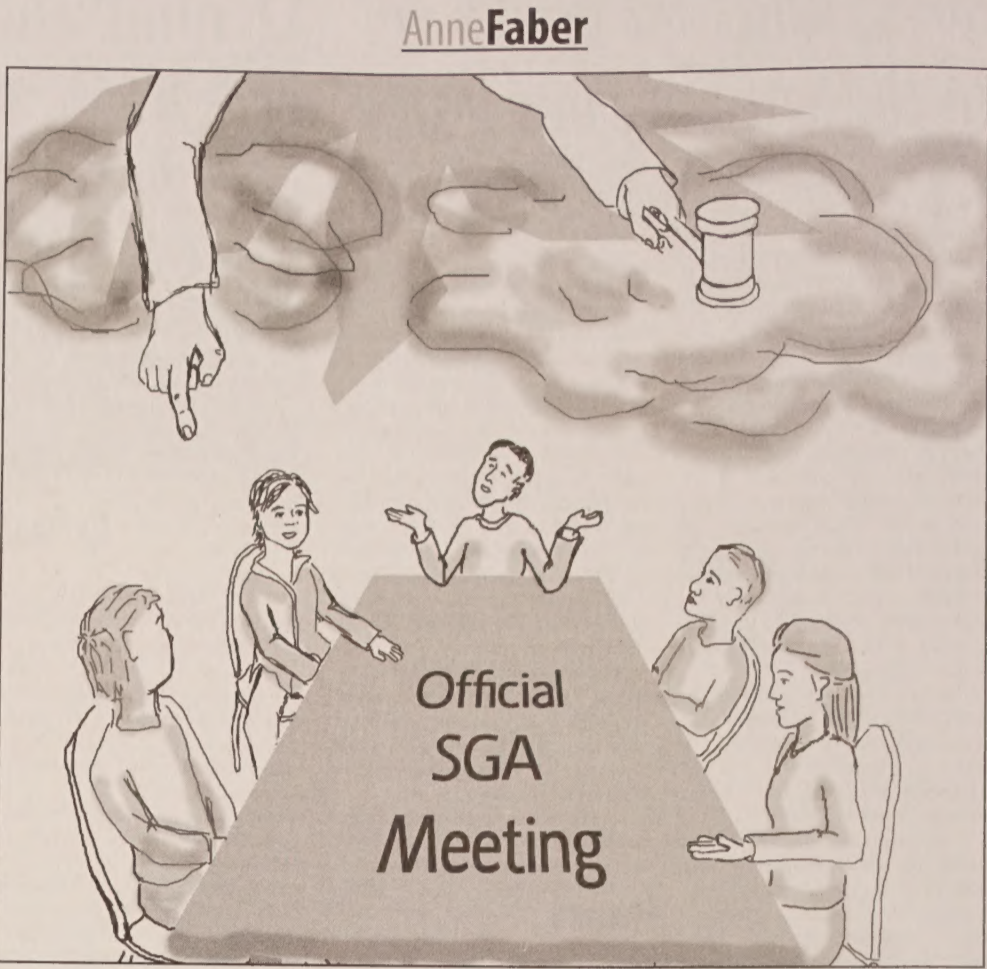
The new Judiciary Committee is comprised of five students whose sole duty is to serve on the Committee. This is the only way to reduce potential biases and conflicts of interest. While still subject to possible abuses of power and conflicts of interest, this imperfect system is the best one there is.

However, we have several concerns regarding the selection of Committee members. The SGA chose the members. Two have been involved with student government previously and three have not. SGA members claimed such a decision was deliberate — new faces on the Committee will help create an impartial institution and pre-

viously involved members will provide stability and continuity. While we agree that experience should not have been a prerequisite, we hope it was not a disqualifier. A student who has never been part of student government will not necessarily be more biased than any other student. Nevertheless, we are cautiously optimistic that the members selected will be fair and competent arbiters of the rules.

We are, however, dismayed by the lack of transparency in the selection process. The votes cast for judiciary applicants by SGA members have not yet been disclosed. We understand why the selection must be conducted discreetly. Students have the right to a reasonable degree of privacy and discretion. Furthermore, SGA members must feel comfortable with talking openly and honestly about the respective applicants. However, releasing voting data threatens neither the privacy of students nor the deliberation. The student body and the applicants themselves have a reasonable expectation to know the breakdown of votes. We urge the SGA to reconsider this secretive and excessive policy.

Despite problems in the selection process, the creation of the Judiciary Committee is a positive step towards making student government a more equitable, efficient and accountable organization.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A \$65,000 washout

Raising political awareness and promoting activism at Hopkins is admirable, and we applaud the sincere efforts of those who organized and supported Hopkins Engaged in this endeavor. We appreciate how challenging it can be to encourage political participation on the Hopkins campus. However, turnout to the event, which cost over \$65,000, was abysmal.

We recognize that inclement weather surely deterred some students, but rain alone cannot explain the overwhelming lack of interest shown by the student body. When the event was proposed, it promised to be the largest political gathering on any university campus.

Although we never expected anything of that caliber, we certainly hoped for something more impressive than what occurred this past weekend.

We already expressed our profound disappointment with the speaker selection. The addition of rapper Wale as free entertainment failed to attract students to the event. Music is an essential part of mobilizing people in political action. Wale, known only to those familiar with the DC rap scene, did not serve this fundamental purpose.

The budget of \$65,000 is not insubstantial. One can only wonder if the planners had invested in a single, well-known speaker instead of having dispersed the funds over the course of an entire day of inconsequential speakers, the event would have been more successful.

If Hopkins Engaged is to take place again, we hope its planners reconsider their approach instead of just blaming the rain.

I was disappointed by the way the Sigma Chi Fraternity was characterized in Thomas Danner's piece on the University's plans for a new multicultural center [Sept. 25]. I took particular umbrage with the suggestion that Sigma Chi hosted a racist Halloween party in the fall of 2006 — a party that was never intended to be racially themed or racist in nature. That is a fact which an official University investigation confirmed.

The article might have been accurate had it specifically referenced the racially insensitive Facebook invitation that one former member of our chapter authored for that party. That episode remains the lowest point of my Hopkins career, but we as a chapter ultimately took collective responsibility for the leadership failures that led to it. Since then my brothers and I have endeavored to work towards greater cultural understanding on our campus — and we have strengthened the accountability and lead-

ership among our brothers in the process. That is why it was so distressing to see Mr. Danner's article ascribe to our chapter an atmosphere of intolerance that was never a part of who we are.

I am proud that Sigma Chi is one of the most diverse groups — racially or otherwise — at Hopkins, and I offer my chapter's enthusiastic support for the new multicultural center.

We want to continue to be a part of the conversation about multiculturalism on this campus, but only in the context of our collaboration and synergy, and without the false characterizations contained in last week's article.

— Shawn Fu  
President, Kappa Upsilon  
Chapter of Sigma Chi

LETTERS POLICY

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 250 words. Letters must be delivered to the Gatehouse by Tuesday at 7 p.m. or e-mailed to [News.Letter@jhu.edu](mailto:News.Letter@jhu.edu) for inclusion in that Thursday's issue. All letters received become property of the News-Letter and cannot be returned. The News-Letter reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and clarity. Letters must include the name, address and telephone number of the author. Only one author's name may be included. Groups, teams and other organizations may not submit letters, only individuals. The News-Letter reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

Expanding sisterhood

We believe the introduction of another sorority to the Panhellenic Council could be a positive addition to student life at Hopkins. Adding a sorority to the Council will substantially ease a burden on the current sororities. It is unfortunate that three of the Panhellenic sororities are currently left with two less-than-desirable options. They can either reject women or accept so many that there is no way for all of them to be well acquainted with each other. Adding a fifth sorority could be an effective way to alleviate this problem.

We acknowledge that it will be difficult to start a new sorority and we would like to know how the Panhellenic Council intends to garner student interest in a new sorority.

Presumably, the chosen sorority will enlist local alumni to help set the tone of the organization and help prospective members understand the group's objectives.

Kappa Kappa Gamma's dissenting vote appears to have been an act of self-preservation. As the newest and smallest Panhellenic sorority on campus, it makes sense that Kappa does not

want another sorority introduced on campus. Doing so could make it harder for Kappa to attract new members, but we hope that if a new sorority is introduced, Kappa members will be able to see the benefits for the Hopkins community and for the Panhellenic council as a whole. Greek life provides a viable outlet for many Hopkins students to develop strong friendships, volunteer in the community and raise money for worthy causes. If there is demand for another sorority on campus, we see no reason why the demand should not be met.

The Panhellenic council should choose the new sorority wisely by getting creative and asking tough questions of the sororities that would like to "colonize" here. The council should push these organizations to assert their core identities, because any sorority that comes to Hopkins should have particular goals and beliefs that will fill a niche on this campus. A new sorority must not merely lighten the loads of those sororities that are already established at Hopkins; It should bring something unique and valuable to campus.

Pioneering alternative medicine

We applaud the opening of the Integrative Medicine and Digestive Center at Hopkins School of Medicine. The move is an appropriate response to the rising use and popularity of alternative medicine in mainstream health care. The integration of conventional medicine with complementary, alternative medicine is part of a growing trend in hospitals across the nation.

According to the American Hospital Association, 27 percent of hospitals in the country offered some form of alternative treatment in 2006. As a member of the Consortium of Academic Health Centers for Integrative Medicine, Hopkins will invest in alternative medicine research and pioneer new, integrative models of patient care. The

initiative will likely motivate other teaching hospitals to follow suit with similar programs.

The National Institutes of Health invested \$300 million in alternative medicine research this year, up from \$50 million 10 years ago. Conventional medical practitioners have usually viewed alternative treatments with skepticism, largely because these treatments have not been tested in controlled, randomized trials.

Investment in research will give authoritative and reproducible evidence that supports the use of these treatments in patients. We are glad that Hopkins is leading the way toward responsible alternative medicine and we hope that other institutions will follow in its footsteps.

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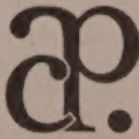
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OPINIONS

Bail out home borrowers, not Wall Street

By RAVI GUPTA

Bringing back memories of Black Monday in October of 1987, the House of Representatives killed the Bush administration's \$700-billion rescue package for America's beleaguered financial industry in a dramatic turn of events this week. The 228-205 vote sent the stock market into a plunge and renewed fears that the United States may be facing a protracted recession. In its largest single-day point loss ever, the Dow Jones Industrial Average plummeted by 777.68 points. Losses to shares on the Dow Jones Wilshire 5000 stock market index, which represents the stocks of nearly every publicly traded company in the United States, amounted to \$1.2 trillion.

How did we end up in this mess? Some blame Clinton & Co. and government manipulation of the free-market in the late 1990s (with the repeal of the Glass-Steagall Act). Others claim the reasons for the credit crunch stem from Bush's tax cuts for the wealthy, which put money into the hands of people who had no choice but to bet the new money on the housing and mortgage market. Both sides of the aisle, however, seem to agree that the origin of our current financial crisis lies in a dodgy home loan program that lead to the fall of some of America's largest commercial and investment banks. During the second term of President Clinton, the United States saw an increase in employment largely because of the high-tech industry boom. But like all booms, it led to a downturn. The money supply had increased and the only market that was making money was housing.

Ravi Gupta is a senior public health studies and biology major from Philadelphia, Penn. and is the News-Letter Opinions Editor.



NATACHI CHUKUMERIJE/GRAPHICS STAFF

So in 2001, there was a large injection of money into houses and construction; U.S. home ownership jumped to almost 70 percent. The "securitization" of home loans began to grow — e.g. mortgage banks switched their original business of making mortgages to making packages of home loans that could be sold off as investments (securities) on Wall Street.

Making it possible for unqualified people to buy homes increased demand for and prices of houses. And as long as housing prices rose, the problems inherent in not requiring down payments and lowering lending standards were buried. As long as prices rose, no one had to default — simply because if someone was unable to pay a mortgage, they could sell the house at a profit.

The market, however, always plays out — and soon enough, "the bubble burst." When prices and construction began to fall as the housing market flattened out, foreclosure rates began increasing and mortgage debt was suddenly a real issue. Home borrowers, many of whom had poor credit, defaulted on their mortgages, causing a steep decline in demand for mortgage-backed securities on Wall Street.

The bailout plan was designed to enable financial institutions to begin lending again by having the federal government buy up mortgages, securities and other financial holdings that are undermining market confidence and resulting in the stock market decline.

But who really deserves to receive a bailout from the Treasury? The original

proposal was to give it to the financial institutions that hold all this bad debt. But underlying all the bad debt are bad mortgages that people can't pay off. This raises an obvious question — why not put a moratorium on home mortgage foreclosures and re-write the mortgages? If mortgages are written down and people can make the payments, it would cost tax payers and the economy far less than a foreclosure. This approach was taken during the Great Depression and it actually made money for taxpayers.

The problem with bailing out financial institutions is that the unqualified home borrowers will still default on their loans and lose their homes. In some cases the bank or lending institution might decide it's worthwhile to reassess a mortgage but in many cases that might not happen. If the financial institutions sell their bad debt to the federal government, they no longer have any incentive to renegotiate a deal with the home borrowers.

Since blame is equally shared by all the parties involved in this financial crisis, the bailout should also be equally shared. Of course, if I'm someone who's been making his payments on time, it might bother me when someone down the street who bit off more than he could chew got bailed out. But it will bother me less than a Wall Street executive who got bailed out after making the same mistake and was paid millions to do it.

As free market capitalists, we have a tendency to worship profit-seeking institutions as perfectly efficient and sensible. We find complacency in the perfection of the system. But the present crisis proves this mentality is misplaced. It shows that all institutions have built-in incentives that lead to risky, irrational behavior and all institutions are capable of self-destruction.

Jackie Huang

Accusative media distorts the real Casey Anthony

Stories of missing children elicit a variety of responses: There's a pull at your heartstrings, a pang of sympathy for the parents and a desire to get out there and search every inch of forest nearby. And of course, there is often disgust, a cry for justice to be served to some sick criminal — but rarely does a story provoke a response like this one.

The story of three-year-old Caylee Anthony, though not as nationally covered as other cases (as evident by the blank stares I received at the mention of her name), has those who do know of the case in an absolute frenzy. The case has become increasingly bizarre and complex; It can hardly be adequately described in a few words. Caylee has been missing since mid-June, her disappearance reported more than a month later, and her 22-year-old "habitual liar" mother Casey has been in the spotlight ever since.

Since the case began, she has been charged with making false official statements, obstruction of a criminal investigation, forgery, and fraud, among other things. She's been deemed irresponsible, the media putting an emphasis on her constant partying and apparent enthusiasm for sex. A detective has even described Casey as speaking in monotone

and showing no concern for Caylee's welfare, while her friends are in tears just thinking about Caylee. Reports have even emerged that Casey has already struck a 2 million dollar deal with Lifetime for the rights to the story. It seems that she is more interested in getting some money from all of this than finding her daughter.

So it's no wonder that the public is outraged. With reporters such as Nancy Grace constantly angry and in spiteful disbelief of Casey's actions, people are too quick to believe that Casey is another heartless criminal. "How could she do that to her own child?" cry thousands of comments online. "She doesn't even seem to care!" And instead of sympathetic strangers doing the usual — organizing thorough searches of nearby areas, coming together in community-wide candlelight vigils, holding fundraisers and plastering fliers on every corner — they are instead standing outside the Anthony home, protesting not-so-peacefully and harassing the family.

In the rather accusative media frenzy, it was quite difficult to find some good attributes of Casey's. It's not that she truly is cold-hearted and reckless, but the news has always portrayed her as such — as

someone who stole, lied and spent much of her time invested only in herself. Reading the police interviews with her close friends and family, I believe that she did care for Caylee: Her friends described her as affectionate toward her daughter and never spiteful that Caylee had come into her life. A former employer admitted that he thought rather highly of her.

Those who talked to her in recent months said that she'd exhibited sad or worried behavior, indicating that perhaps she was indeed concerned for Caylee. And she's spoken badly of herself as well, showing that, perhaps, she has felt some guilt or had some regret about how things have played out.

Everyone, particularly the media, knows that scandal sells. Casey Anthony is the biggest mystery to hit the news in a while; People are understandably hooked. The thing about it all, however, is that it seems that the attention is no longer on Caylee. At the end of the day, they are generally more invested in breaking down her mother than putting in attempts to find her, and such half-hearted sympathy only goes so far.

Of course, it's human nature to want to put together mysteries. We are inherently curious and I, too, want to know what

really happened. But, even if Casey is a "person of interest," when it gets to the point of interfering with the Anthonys' lives and issuing death threats, it's gone too far. It is highly unlikely that throwing pennies at the house and forcing her father out into the street will cause her to suddenly begin telling the truth — if anything, something terrible will happen to Casey as well, and then we will truly never know what happened.

While I, too, have my own theories, the best we can do right now is sit back and wait. Trying to harm Casey is not only hypocritical (why treat someone badly for allegedly treating someone else badly?), but most likely detrimental to police efforts as well — and if we want to get the truth, we're going to need them to handle Casey. This case needs to be looked at more objectively and less emotionally, be it by news outlets or the protesters that wait outside the Anthony home; The best thing that we can do for Caylee is to leave her mother alone. Perhaps then all of us, including Caylee, can find some peace.

Jackie Huang is a sophomore from San Jose, Calif.

Colin Ray

The end is in sight

Polls show that despite nearly 11 years of campaigning for the 2008 presidential election (the one between Barack Obama and John McCain) there are still voters in swing states who haven't decided for whom to vote.

This creates an awkward situation in which the two candidates from the major parties must continue to spend money and actually "campaign" in a brazen attempt to win votes for themselves at the expense of their opponent. Frankly, it's getting difficult to lampoon the process of deciding who is going to be the next leader of the free world, given the woefully unqualified candidates who comprise half of the ticket. At some point, hopefully nearer to Nov. 4 than later, Americans will choose to put in the executive office individuals with either three and a half or one and a half years of questionable experience.

Hopkins students, like most smart people, are not usually undecided voters. The problem there tends to be that decided voters understand issues, align themselves with candidates and therefore rarely change their minds. As such, and based on a fervent desire not to spill precious ink with further insight into a race that cannot possibly contain any more meaningful developments (other than recent revelations that Governor Palin is a creationist and believes that

crude oil is no more than 6,000 years old), I've decided to compile a list of predictions based on what we know of the candidates and their political claims to this point.

Oct. 5, 2008: Senator McCain is forced to suspend campaigning on a swing through New York when the Straight Talk Express briefly catches fire after getting too close to the Wall Street meltdown.

Oct. 2, 2008: Proving that she's more than just an obvious pander choice to female voters and horny men, Governor Palin soundly defeats Senator Biden in the vice-presidential debate. Pundits are stunned as Governor Palin demonstrates exhaustive and nuanced knowledge on foreign relations, the economy, energy production and Middle Eastern policy.

Oct. 7, 2008: At a town hall debate, Senator McCain successfully explains for the first time the difference between a Sunni and a Shiite.

Oct. 8, 2008: After failing to win the second debate, Senator Obama is heard asking an advisor, "Wasn't I once good at public speaking?"

Oct. 15, 2008: Brit Hume of Fox News declares Senator McCain winner of the final debate before Senator Obama even appears on stage after McCain successfully raises his right arm over his head. Following up on the foreign affairs de-

bate, which kicked off with a question on the American financial crisis, Bob Schieffer of CBS News asks a relevant question on American influence in Estonia, which neither candidate can locate on a map.

Oct. 16, 2008: Senator Obama backtracks, clarifies and re-explains several hypothetical positions.

Oct. 18, 2008: In an unequivocal middle-finger to critics of his age, McCain finishes the Columbus Marathon in battleground state Ohio in just two hours and 43 minutes, setting a new record for the 72-and-over age bracket.

Oct. 20, 2008: Bristol Palin becomes Bristol Johnston in the bonds of holy and legal matrimony. Husband Levi Johnston posts on his Myspace page, "I am so pumped to be a husband and a dad. I look forward to skipping college and enjoying the joys of domesticity. I am so glad I made this decision myself."

Oct. 22, 2008: Malia Ann Obama crush scandal breaks onto the Internet and grips the nation after the Illinois senator's oldest daughter is seen kissing a boy behind the swings on the playground. Unrelenting media refuses to leave ten-year-old alone.

Oct. 21, 2008: Senator Obama says that, if elected, he would appoint Governor Palin ambassador to Russia, citing her experience in dealing with that

country.

Oct. 24, 2008: In Denver, a drunken and unanchored Chris Matthews is found by a roving, renegade SWAT team wandering through the streets of Minneapolis. Matthews repeatedly claims to be searching for the Republican National Convention and is crestfallen to discover that it has been over for nearly two months.

Oct. 25, 2008: As polls indicate that Democrats will take a 60-40 lead in the Senate, looking ahead to 2009 and wanting to at least have the chance to get his own initiatives voted down should he lose, McCain suspends own campaign until things change. Not to be undone, nor understanding the political ramifications of such a move, Obama mercifully does too.

Nov. 4, 2008: Americans hold Democrats accountable for choosing a presidential candidate with no real political experience and Republicans accountable for choosing a vice presidential candidate with no political experience and stay home from the polls. All four candidates vote in their home states, which results in a popular vote tie but gives the Democrats a 24-13 edge in electoral votes.

Colin Ray is a senior English major from Chardon, Ohio.

First debate filled with empty rhetoric

By NEIL ALBSTEIN

With the nation at war and in the depths of a fiscal crisis, many Americans hoped that the first presidential debate would reveal one of the candidates as wise, inspirational and worthy of the highest office in government. Disappointingly, neither candidate fit this description. What America witnessed instead was a petty, pathetic series of partisan rants of recycled rhetoric, accompanied by frequent blatant lies, exaggerated numbers, botched anecdotes and general misinformation presented by two men who seemed completely unfit for the office one of them will soon be occupying.

The nonsense started just a few days before the debate when Republican nominee Senator John McCain announced that he would not participate in the debate unless an agreement had been reached on President Bush's proposed bailout plan. Though McCain was certainly right that, as senators, he and rival Barack Obama (D-Ill.) belonged at the House vote and the negotiations that preceded it, by associating the debate and his campaign in general with the bipartisan efforts of Congress he politicized the bailout process. With the bailout efforts in ruins, McCain swiftly reversed course and announced that the debate would proceed as scheduled.

The debate had been transformed from a competition between the ideas of rivals to a tool to fan the flames of partisanship.

Moderator Jim Lehrer was given the task of asking questions of the candidates on the subject of foreign policy, which included economics. The candidates set the tone with their responses to Lehrer's first question, their opinions on the bailout. Each candidate was permitted two minutes to speak on the subject. Neither did. Instead, each delivered a speech devoid of substance, criticizing the opposing party and telling the viewer nothing about their own views.

As the debate progressed, neither candidate felt the need to provide the American people with new information of any kind. They explained their positions not a bit more. They clarified nothing. They did however, lie, spin, and generally falsify their statements to such a level that a transcript of the debate could almost qualify as historical fiction. It was so blatant that they even accused each other of lying during the course of the debate. For example, McCain pointed out that Obama had once voted to increase taxes on people who made less than \$42,000 a year. Obama claimed that was false. Inspection reveals that Obama, did, in fact vote to increase taxes on unmarried individuals who made less than \$42,000 a year. McCain spun it, Obama lied about it, and the American public was forced to either take the word of their favorite candidate, or give up understanding the point. Neither candidate provided a clear explanation of what happened. Unfortunately, this exchange was not the exception, but the rule during the debate.

Both candidates showed a disturbing lack of growth in terms of their viewpoints. Much has been revealed in the months since the campaigns began, yet Obama and McCain insist on continuing to spout the same opinions they preached at the outset. A key point for Barack Obama since the beginning of the campaign has been his views on the Iraq war, including his initial opposition to the war and his later denouncement of the troop surge. Though few now dispute that the surge has worked, Obama refused to make a simple acknowledgement of the fact. McCain, however, refused to even discuss the merits of being in the war to begin with. While he was technically right that the question of whether to go to war with Iraq will not be a decision for the next president, whoever assumes office will most likely have to make decisions regarding the invasions of other countries, and it would be comforting to know that the man making that decision had learned from past mistakes.

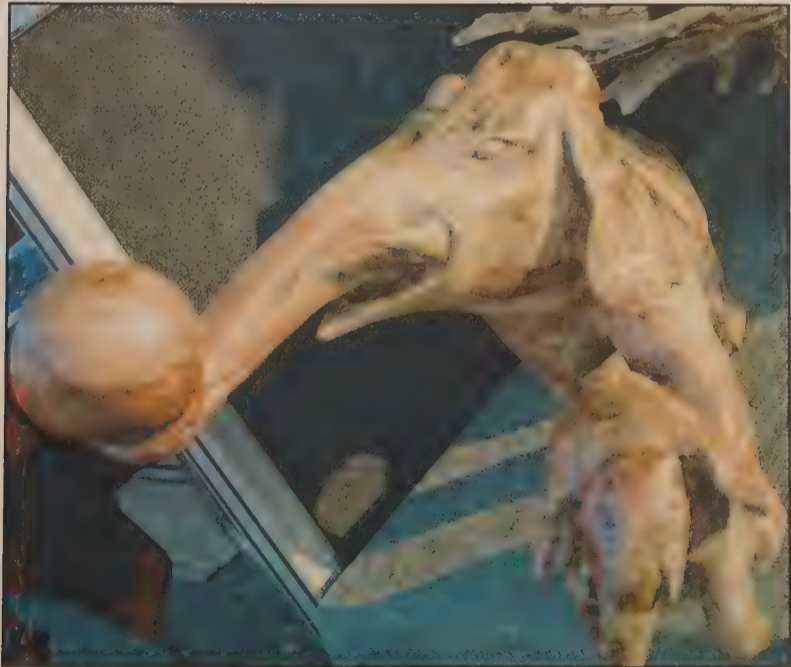
The final insult came with the candidates anecdotes about soldiers' bracelets they wear. Both had bracelets given to them by parents of deceased soldiers; However, they were apparently given to them for opposite reasons. Using these bracelets as debate fodder took the sincere emotions of grieving parents and turned them into political statements. There is no place in government for taking political advantage of sincere grief.

Both candidates embarrassed themselves in Friday's debate. They lied, cheated, and generally engaged in conduct unbefitting an American citizen, much less the President. Based on their conduct on national television, neither of these men deserves to occupy the White House.

Neil Albstein is a junior political science major from New York, N.Y.

ARTSCAPE

Photos by Angeli Bueno



# THE B SECTION

The Johns Hopkins  
News-Letter

Arts & Entertainment • Science & Technology • Your News-Letter • Cartoons • Calendar • Sports

OCTOBER 2, 2008

## THE BALTIMORE BOOK FESTIVAL



ALL PHOTOS BY BRITNI CROCKER/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

For three days, bibliophiles  
braved the elements  
to share their common love  
for the written word  
in the heart of Baltimore.

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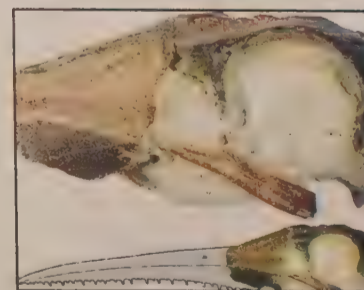


No one knows  
about this  
silent but deadly  
contributor to  
global warming  
Page B6

WHO  
FARTED?



### INSIDE B SECTION



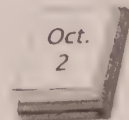
#### SCIENCE

• A fossil the size of a chicken has been found in Canada. Catch these digs on page B7.

#### YOUR N-L

• Finding your life is cluttered and confused? Help clean it up with the tips on page B8.

# CALENDAR OCT. 2 - OCT. 8



## Celebrate the new season in Fells Point

Fells Point is hosting its annual Fall Festival this weekend. The neighborhood block party, which has been going on for more than 30 years, takes place from Harbor Point east along Thames Street to Wolfe Street and along Broadway as far north as Gough Street.

What used to be a small fundraising event for the surrounding area has now ballooned into an extravaganza with an expected attendance of 700,000 visitors! Fells Point is just a few blocks east of the Inner Harbor and is mostly known for its nightlife and music venues. The festival starts at 1 a.m. and ends around 7 p.m. Fortunately, admission is

stage and a charitable money wheel.

Five stages throughout the festival area feature rock 'n' roll, bluegrass, jazz, blues, folk, Cajun, country, gospel, barbershop, dancing and more.

There are multiple activities for children and families, such as puppet shows, clowns, street performers, games and art projects.

The festival hosts over 40 vendors in four food courts with epicurean delights from all over the world. Besides the deviation from normal festival food, Fells Point festivities also feature beer gardens — designated outdoor areas set up for the consumption of alcohol.

Thames Street Park in past years has had alcohol vendors. They are set up inside the fenced playground area. Harvest Garden at the far western end of Thames Street is the beer garden. Offering local microbrews and other food, this area has a music



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This weekend, Fells Point will be overrun with vendors, musicians and rides for their annual fall festival.

vendors exhibiting handmade wares. The International Bazaar houses 250 retailers selling items from around the world. In addition, the festival possesses an antiques market and fine arts displayed in the city pier. A jumbo television screen is also programmed to broadcast a Michael Phelps celebration on Saturday and the Ravens football game on Sunday.

So while you could celebrate the beginning of the fall season

with the typical pumpkins, corn mazes and wagon rides, you could also welcome autumn the B'more way. For the folks in Fells Point, that means a massive street party with beer, art, music, dancing and rides.

Visit <http://www.preservation.society.com/jpf2007.html> for a list of the vendors, a festival map and contact information for the event.

—Rachael Tillman

## On-and-off campus Thursday, Oct. 2

### 10 a.m. 32 Terrific Teeth

The National Museum of Dentistry's permanent exhibit includes George Washington's dentures, dental instruments used by Queen Victoria and the world's only Tooth Lukebox. General tickets are \$6, tickets for students, seniors and children over 6 are \$3, and members and children under 6 are free. The museum is located at 31 S. Greene St. and is open from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Visit <http://dentalmuseum.org> for more information.

### 10 a.m. Autumn Colors: Japanese Paintings of the Edo Period

This Walters Art Museum exhibit is showing 18th- and 19th-century Japanese paintings, hanging scrolls and sliding-door panels featuring autumn scenes. The Walters is located at 600 N. Charles St. The exhibit runs through Sunday, Nov. 30. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit <http://thewalters.org> for more information.

### 10 a.m. 100th Anniversary of Modern Road Building

The Baltimore Museum of Industry is holding a centennial celebration of Maryland's road system displays a 72-foot mural of historic photos, as well as artifacts and video footage from the last century of in-state road-building. This event ends Wednesday, Dec. 31 and is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Baltimore Museum of Industry is located at 1415 Key

Hwy. Visit <http://thebmi.org> for more information.

### 12 p.m. Dateline Israel: New Photography and Video Art

This exhibit at the Jewish Museum of Maryland features work by noted artists from Israel, Europe and America and is running through Sunday, Jan. 4, 2009. Artists in the exhibit include Boaz Arad, Yael Bartana, Rina Castelnovo, Rineke Dijkstra, Barry Frydlander, Ori Gersht, Miki Kratsman, Leora Laor, Gillian Laub, Yaron Lessem, Motti Mizrahi, Orit Raff, Guy Raz, Wolfgang Tillmans, Wim Wenders, Pavel Wolberg, Sharon Ya'ari and Catherine Yass. Museum members get in for free; General non-member tickets are \$8, student tickets are \$4 and tickets for children under 12 are \$3. The museum is located at 15 Lloyd St. Visit <http://www.jewishmuseummd.org> for more information.

### 4 p.m. \$2 Thirsty Thursdays

On Thirsty Thursdays at the Stalking Horse Tavern, all frozen slushies are \$2, Miller Lite bottles are \$2, and when you buy one quesadilla you get the second one for \$2. The event runs from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. The Stalking Horse is located in Federal Hill at 26 E. Cross St. Visit <http://stalkinghorsefederalhill.com> for more details.

### 5 p.m. Baltimore Portrait

This exhibit at popular Hampden restaurant Rocket to Venus features portraits of Baltimore's 20- to 30-somethings by Erin Fitzpatrick. The paintings are oil on primed wood. The exhibit runs through Sunday, Oct. 12. Rocket

to Venus is located at 3360 Chestnut Ave.

### 5 p.m. Found Objects: New Beginnings — The Art of Trash

This event features over 60 works from 15 area artists, created primarily with commonplace objects found in the trash. The majority of pieces are for sale and a percentage of each sale will directly benefit the museum's educational programs. The exhibit is at the Baltimore Public Works Museum, located at 751 Eastern Ave. General tickets are \$3, students, seniors and active military pay \$2.50, groups of 10 or more pay \$2, and children under 6 get in free. The exhibit runs through Saturday, Oct. 4. The museum is located at 751 Eastern Ave. Visit <http://www.ci.baltimore.md.us> for more information.

### 5:30 p.m. Concerts in the Park: Oranges Band and Caleb Stine and Brakemen

This free event sponsored by the Citypaper will be in Mount Vernon Park at Charles and Monument Streets. Oranges Band is a Baltimore-based indie rock band, and Caleb Stine and the Brakemen have a modern take on folk music. Brewer's Art beer will be available for purchase. Visit <http://mvcd.org> for more information.

### 6:30 p.m. Cake and the Winterpills

Cake is playing the Pier Six Concert Pavilion in Inner Harbor at 732 Eastern Ave. The Winterpills are opening for Cake. Pavilion seating is \$40, and lawn seating is \$30. Visit <http://piersixpavilion.com> for more information.

### 8 p.m. Show

#### Me What You Got MC Competition

This MC competition at Bedrock is open to all ages and has a \$1,000 cash prize. Bedrock is located at 401 W. Baltimore St. Visit <http://www.bedrockbaltimore.com> for more information.

### 8 p.m. A Baltimore Love Thing

Tim Paggi's new romantic comedy play takes place in post-apocalyptic Baltimore and runs through Saturday, Oct. 4. The show is being put on at the Copycat Annex Theater at 419 E. Oliver St.

## Friday, Oct. 3

### 5 p.m. Fridays After Five

The National Aquarium in Baltimore lets the price of admission take a dive. Enjoy \$8 admission Fridays after 5 p.m. Visit the dolphins, turtles, stingrays and sharks of Baltimore's underwater community. Call 410-576-3800 for more information.

### 8 p.m. Peabody Concert Orchestra

Relax and listen to orchestral pieces written by the classics such as Beethoven, Vivaldi, Bach and Piazzolla. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students with ID. The concert is held in Friedberg Concert Hall, 1 East Mount Vernon Place.

### 7 p.m. The Roots and Gym Class Heroes

Two of hip-hop's premiere live bands join forces in an all-out jam session. The Gym Class Heroes eclectic hip-hop rock paired with the Roots's incorporated tuba-player is sure to make this a concert you won't want to miss! Tickets are \$38.50 in advance, \$41 day of show. The show is located at 20 Market Pl. in downtown Baltimore at Rams Head Live! Visit <http://www.ramsheadlive.com> for more information.

### 9 p.m. DJ Xclusive at Mosaic Lounge

One of the more fashionable nightlife pads offers local DJ Xclusive from radio channel 67. Get dressed up, socialize, and hit the dancefloor. The lounge is located in Power Plant Live! on 4 Market Place. Visit <http://mosaic-baltimore.com/> for more information.

## Saturday, Oct. 4

### 4 p.m. African-Yoruba Culture, Language and Spirituality Lecture

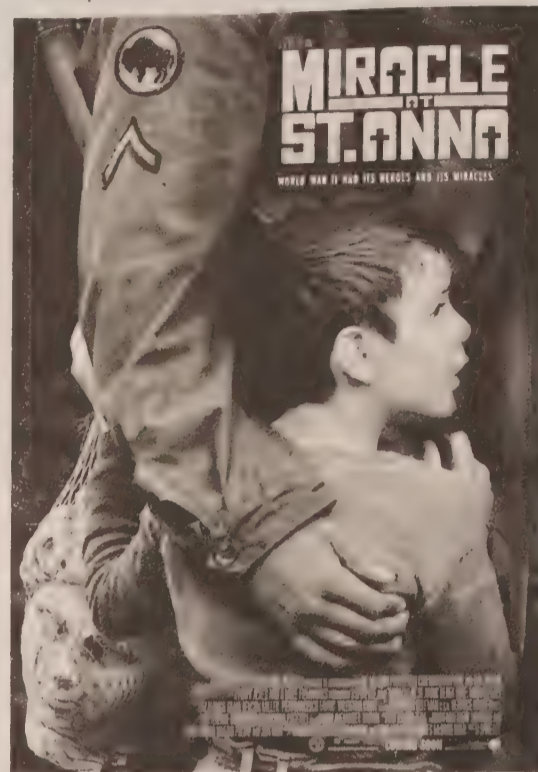
The Yoruba Institute of Culture and Language studies will be hosting a lecture on African culture on Saturdays. The institute is at 1707 Wilmington

## MOVIE OPENINGS

### Miracle at St. Anna

Playing at the Landmark Theatre

Visit <http://www.landmarktheatres.com> for showtimes



COURTESY OF IMPD.COM

Inspired by the August 1944 Sant'Anna di Stazzema massacre, the film follows four black soldiers. Directed by Spike Lee, the movie hinges on the action around the Italian campaign during WWII.

Ave. For more information visit <http://www.yorubainstituteofculture.org>.

### 4:30 p.m. Fly Me to the Moon

Imax Theater presents America's first steps on the moon in 3D animation ... through the eyes of three comical cartoon flies. The show plays at the Maryland Science Center in the Inner Harbor. Visit <http://www.mdsci.org/shows/imax/showtimes.html> for more information and for additional show times. Tickets are \$12.

### 6 p.m. Jet Set Mafia

Resident DJ Jointz will be spinning global mash and party music at Red Maple, located at 930 N. Charles St. in Mount Vernon. The party doesn't stop until 2 a.m. Call (410) 547-0149 for more information.

### 7:30 p.m. Peabody Camerata

Griswald Hall located at 1 East Mount Vernon Pl. is hosting a contemporary instrumental concert. Admission is free!

### 7:30 p.m. Yonder Mountain String Band

Yonder Mountain String Band, a bluegrass-rock band known for their improvisational and energetic live shows, is playing at Rams Head Live! Tickets are \$22.50 in advance and \$25 the day of the show. Rams Head Live! is located at 20 Market Pl. Visit <http://ramsheadlive.com> for more information.

### 8 p.m. Judy Silvano Ensemble

This jazz ensemble will have Judi Silvano performing vocals, George Garzone on tenor saxophone, Michael Formanek on double bass and Gerry Hemmingway on drums. The show will be at An Die Musik, located at 409 N. Charles St. in Mount Vernon. General tickets are \$20, seniors and students are \$18, and both sets \$20. Call (410) 385-2638 for more information.

## Sunday, Oct. 5

### 9 a.m. Sunday Jazz Brunch

Ze Mean Bean Café in Fells Point is hosting a Sunday brunch. A live band performs (11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.) while you eat. The menu ranges from breakfast burritos to lamb. The event is located on 1739 Fleet St.

### 5 p.m. JHU Comedy Film Festival: The Big Lebowski

JHU juniors and Hopkins Arts Innovation Grant recipients Neil Albstein and Jeremy Garson will be presenting a viewing of *The Big Lebowski*. The film will be shown in the Merrick Barn. This event is part of the Johns

Hopkins Classic Comedy Film Festival.

### 7 p.m. T-Pain

T-Pain is flying solo in the Towson Center Arena. Even without his usual collaborators, you know, Lil' Wayne, Flo-Rida or Chris Brown, he's still willing to buy us a drank. The show is located on 8000 York Rd. and admission is \$18.

### 8 p.m. RATATAT

RATATAT is headlining this concert at Sonar, which also features Panther, E\*Rock and Taxlo DJs. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$17 on the day of the show. Sonar is located at 407 E. Baltimore St. Visit <http://www.sonarbalmore.com> for more information.

### 8 p.m. David Sedaris

This acclaimed writer will be speaking at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall to share stories on his family, childhood and travels. The Meyerhoff Symphony Hall is located at 1212 Cathedral St. in Mount Vernon. Tickets are \$30, \$36 and \$40. Visit <http://ticketmaster.com> for more information.

## Monday, Oct. 6

### 9 a.m. "Cathedral of Books"

The "Cathedral of Books" historical exhibition holds replicas of over 30 books. These books are composed of a general reference collection covering almost every subject considered important by 18th-century scholars and contains publications from the 16th through 20th centuries. The exhibit is free and located at the George Peabody Library at 17 E. Mount Vernon Place.

### 4 p.m. World of Soy

There will be a discussion of the book *The World of Soy* complete with book signings by the author. The book brings together an international group of expert food specialists to discuss important issues central to soy production and consumption. The discussion is located in Bloomberg School of Public Health — Sheldon Hall (W1214). The event is open to the general public, and admission is free.

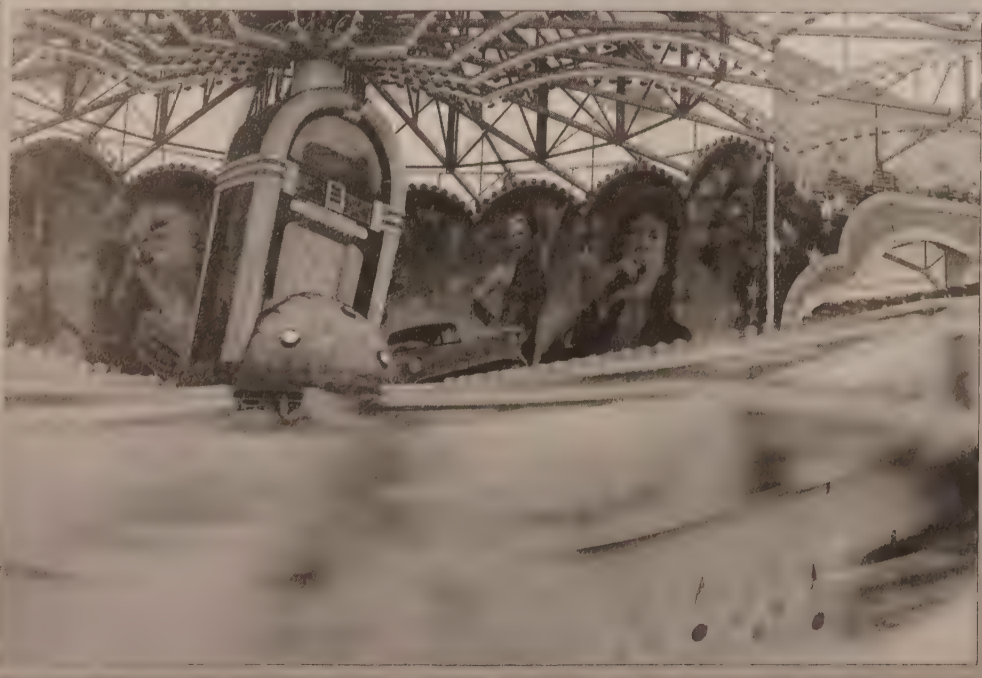
## Tuesday, Oct. 7

### 9 p.m. Tuesdays Anti Pop Night

Shorty's Martini Bar and Lounge located on 3301 Foster Ave. in Canton hosts Tuesdays Anti Pop Night. Enjoy the best of punk and ska with Ricky Rally and Jimmy Jam as well as \$1-PBR drafts and reduced price rail drinks.

## Exposure

By Angeli Bueno



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Annual Book Festival highlights local talents

By **L. RACHEL GREENBERG**  
For the News-Letter

In the middle of Saturday's series of rainstorms, groups of Hopkins students and Baltimore natives trekked in raincoats and boots to the 2008 Baltimore Book Festival at Mount Vernon Place in the 600 block of N. Charles Street. The 13th annual production of the Book Festival went on from Friday through Sunday despite the weather, presenting public readings and performances from over 200 nationally and locally renowned authors and performers along with all the culture and fun that Baltimore street fairs are known for.

Tents filled with book vendors, local store representatives and publishers lined Charles Street, offering a variety of special interest books. One of the most popular attractions for this year included the Radical Bookfair Pavilion which featured stands from well-known Baltimore names like Atomic Books and Red Emma's Bookstore Coffeehouse as well as independent groups. Tables of independently produced magazines, literature and artwork were displayed by such groups as Justseeds: Radical Artists' Cooperative and Industrial Workers of the World Baltimore division. Author Hanne Blank was present to discuss her new book, *Virgin: The Untouched History*. The idea to write this book, Blank says, comes from her strongly feminist viewpoints and her idea of the double standard for virginity between men and women. Blank's book is available from and was presented by Atomic Books.

Free magazines with names like *Hot Pants: Do-It-Yourself Gynecology*, *Dropping Out for Students and Young People*, *Zapatistas in their Own Words* and *White Shark Tales: Vanarchy in the USA* were offered.

Artists who can honestly and genuinely define themselves as punk, many of them from the original generation, sported a range of hair and dress styles at their tables sponsored by independent groups. They presented independently produced art as well as literature. The Radical Printmakers Cooperative offered a presentation of their projects as well as a lecture.



BRITNI CROCKER/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
Despite the downpour that persisted on Saturday, throngs of Baltimoreans came out for the annual Book Festival in Mt. Vernon.

The CityLit Project presented one of the most popular and frequented showcases at the fair. The group, which focuses on producing cultural and literary events throughout Baltimore, presented readings and questionnaires with local writers and academics including professors from most of Baltimore's colleges. Mary Jo Salter represented Hopkins with Brad Leithauser at the "Married, with Writer" panel in which professors from Hopkins and Loyola, as well as freelance writers, answered questions about their work in literature as well as their teaching experiences. Authors offered insight into the teaching experience and their exchanges with students, as well as advice for aspiring authors and journalists.

The CityLit's School of Lit stage presented all-day readings from students at many of Baltimore's colleges including Hopkins, Loyola, Goucher, Towson and UMBC. Writing Seminars students Gabrielle Ponce, Joanna Pearson and Rachel Monroe represented the talent of writers at Hopkins with readings of their poetry and prose.

*The Little Patuxent Review*, a literary magazine presenting local authors and artists, gave readings of their work, and the Festival Stage demonstrated Baltimore's

talent in the performing arts with small productions of independent plays, as well as numerous groups of singers and vocalists who performed a wide variety of music including soul and showtunes.

Popular vendors included McSweeney's presenting their 28th installment of their quarterly review. McSweeney's quarterly review is well-known for its selection of artistic and literary works that range from the absurdly funny to biting satire. This edition is presented as four individual short story volumes tied together by a painting formed from the collected covers. The group also presented a selection of new, less known publications including Lemony Snicket's 2007 children's book, *The Latke Who Couldn't Stop Screaming*.

The Johns Hopkins University Press was also present, offering a selection of books ranging in category from science to history to literary review. Titles included *Seductive Delusions: How Everyday People Catch STDs* by Jill Grimes, M.D., a book that explores the subject of the spread of STDs in middle America by discussing true accounts of women with STDs. Another popular title is *Becoming Batman: The Possibility of a Superhero* by E. Paul Zehr, which discusses the possibilities of a human ever achieving the physical feats of Batman and whether or not such an event could ever be possible. Zehr explores the subject with emphasis on ath-

letic skill, no surprise considering that he holds two black belts. Books were also featured on such subjects as Maryland history and ecology.

Major draws for the Book Festival included names like Naomi Wolf, author of *The Beauty Myth* and *Promiscuities* and chef Mark McEwen, as well as congresswomen Loretta and Linda Sanchez. Michael Ian Black, comedian famous for appearances in VH1's *I Love the '80s*, NBC's *Ed* and *Wet Hot American Summer*, gave readings from his book, *My Custom Van: and 50 Other Mind Blowing Essays that Will Blow Your Mind All Over Your Face*.

The Festival also included smaller venues: Musicians and bands performed all day and historical and literary tours were given by actors in period clothing. Workshops were also offered on developing writing skills in prose, graphic novels and children's literature, as well as on developing a market and attention for aspiring writers. A display was also presented on the Modern Library's 100 Best English-Language Novels of the 20th Century, a popular attraction for the crowds of literature fans.

The 2008 Baltimore Book Festival delivered despite the weather, an exciting artistic and literary experience that reflected the influence of Baltimore culture on the literary world and brought attention to the many talented writers living in the city.

## Thornton Wilder and Center Stage are a perfect match

By **AARON SCHWEITZER**  
For the News-Letter

CenterStage's current main-stage production revives the much-loved spirit of the fading genre of the farce. There's just something about mistaken identity, misunderstanding, over-the-top emotion and a happy ending that enchants an audience.

Baltimore CenterStage's production of Thornton Wilder's *The Matchmaker* preserves all that we love about the farce form in Wilder's tone and perspective with the dash of philosophy — usually satirizing middle-class values like thrift, sobriety, or prudence — that he couldn't help throwing into the play.

*The Matchmaker's* general story shares a lot with most farces. It opens with an artist, Ambrose Kemper, trying to convince Horace Vandergelder, a Yonkers shopkeeper, to let him marry Ermengarde, Horace's niece. Horace refuses, saying Ambrose is flighty and foolish and that he won't be able to support Ermen-

gard.

He himself, however, is looking to remarry after his first wife's death and is relying on Dolly Levi, the titular matchmaker, to help him do so. Dolly wants Horace for herself. Meanwhile, Horace's employees, Cornelius and Barnaby, desert the shop they've been told to mind in order to have an adventure in New York. Despite their best efforts to avoid one another and follow through with their particular plans, Dolly brings the all the other characters crashing together, with hilarious results.

*The Matchmaker* can trace its origins to John Oxenford's one-act "A Day Well Spent." This version contains only the story of Bolt and Mizzle, the direct ancestors of Cornelius and Barnaby, and none of the philosophical asides that permeate *The Matchmaker*. Oxenford's play was adapted by Johann Nestroy to a Viennese setting, and introduces the sub-plot of Ambrose and Ermengarde, albeit not with those names. Nestroy's version also includes satirical songs and asides upon which Wilder would later draw.

Wilder adapted these plays into *The Merchant of Yonkers* — which he would rewrite as *The*

*Matchmaker* after *The Merchant* failed on Broadway — in 1938, transporting the story to America and adding the character and sub-plot of Dolly Levi.

Any company that wants to produce *The Matchmaker* well, and according to Wilder's intentions, must take care to preserve two qualities in the play. The first is the universality of the play's appeal. Wilder wrote for a mass audience, and his plays explore the common experience of the human condition.

The satire that appears in *The Matchmaker* focuses on the clash between middle-class values and universal needs. Dolly, commenting on the value of money, derides thrift (and not incidentally advocates Keynesian economics) by likening it to manure; piled up, it stifles life, spread around, it helps new life grow. The second quality is harder to describe. It could be described as innocence, but a more accurate description is fresh-facedness.

The play takes place around the turn of the century, before the First World War, a time of unbridled confidence and, yes, innocence in America. A production which doesn't preserve this lighthearted optimism doesn't preserve the core of the play. Not incidentally, this is why *The Merchant of Yonkers* failed in its original Broadway run.

The CenterStage production, in complete contrast to this original run, maintains a high level of energy. It opens with a bang, literally, as Horace rages at Ambrose, Ermengarde weeps and a frustrated barber tries to shave Horace's face while he rises from his chair and wildly gesticulates. However, Edward Gero is successful in bringing humanity to a character that is easy to overact.

In his asides, he gives Horace the vice of hypocrisy, and in his first conversation with Dolly shows him to be a simple, though pretentious, soul, easily captivated by Caitlin O'Connell's mesmerizing, duplicitous, well-meaning and vain as a peacock Dolly. O'Connell's first aside, in turn, indulges in some obvious foreshadowing, using a comment Horace tossed off about "the world falling to pieces" to introduce her pursuit of him as well

CONTINUED ON PAGE B5

## Everyday heroes come to Baltimore for Comic Con

By **JOHN KERNAN**  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The idea of a comic book convention had me on the defensive from the beginning. I am not, and have never been, a comic-book nerd. I read *Spider-Man* for about six months in elementary school, though, so I felt I could at least have a vague sense of belonging at last weekend's Baltimore Comic Con. And, hey, I liked the *Spider-Man*, *Superman* and *Batman* movies, just like everybody else. What more could be required?

A lot, apparently. There seems to be a hierarchy at these conventions, one into which I did not fit. At the top reign the fully cos-

tumed super-nerd, an unquestioned freak show at all other times, but a practical demigod at a comic book convention. These people — and there were plenty — could not walk 10 feet without being stopped for a picture, a handshake, or a challenge to see who is the better quoter of the costumer's source universe. Next, you have your comic-con families, who bond together to form a sort of blood-reinforced clan of enthusiasts, usually centered around one specific character. Tots as young as one or two years old were seen sporting the Green Lantern shirt or a Superman hat. The average con-goer

CONTINUED ON PAGE B4



COURTESY OF JOHN KERNAN

Dozens of vendors were at the Comic Con, selling books from as far back as the '50s'

### Last Week Live Sonata Arctica

Last Friday, music fans gathered at Rams Head Live with the intention of watching the performance of the Finnish symphonic metal band Nightwish, featuring Sonata Arctica as the opening band. Unfortunately, the leading vocalist of Nightwish had been sick and was unable to perform, but the rest of the band was at Power Plant Live to meet the audience and give out autographs. Instead of Nightwish, Sonata Arctica performed a full show for free.

Before the show, the members of Nightwish got on the stage to apologize for the inconvenience. In an attempt to cheer up the audience, the bassist Marco Hietala jokingly commented that the rest of the band members were out looking for cute guys. When they were about to leave the stage to Sonata Arctica, they made a point to praise their fellow Finnish musicians.

The Sonata Arctica poster that was used as a backdrop for the stage depicted five wolves on a snowy hill with a full moon in the sky, which looked ominous and grand due to the high ceiling of the concert hall. The band made a plain entrance, but was greeted with a thunderous applause by the audience. There was no security fence separating the audience and the stage, and this created a stronger connection between the audience and the band.

Sonata Arctica started off with hits from their latest album, *Unia* — "In Black and White" and "Paid in Full." The

audience was very enthusiastic about the band's music, and there were hardcore Sonata Arctica fans even though this was initially supposed to be a Nightwish concert.

Sonata Arctica is a power metal band, but their show was rather unusual for a metal concert: As the leading vocalist Tony Kakko puts it, "Every show is an embarrassment in a way, but I'm a clown..." He put a show on stage, literally, by acting as the emo guy with a sullen face while performing the emotional song "Draw Me," with his hands wrapped around himself. The story behind this song is actually a dramatic one.

A talented artist draws the portrait of his father, and soon after, the father dies. The same incidence occurs with his brother after the artist sketches him. Shaken to the ground by this coincidence, the talented artist swears never to draw a living person again. The song portrays the internal conflict of the artist and he asks himself, "I've lived a long life, should I draw me?" We leave it to you to decide whether this is a true story as claimed by the leading vocalist.

As the performance pro-

ceeded, the band played songs from their older albums like "8th Commandment," "Full Moon" and "Black Sheep." That was when the audience participated more and sang along to the songs. The most impressive parts of the performances were the solos — especially those by the lead guitarist, Elias Viljanen. There were duets going on between the lead guitarist and the keyboardist Henrik Klingenberg, which got the attention of the audience.

The keyboard used by Klingenberg was a portable one, hung around the neck just like a guitar. The long-haired band members definitely made good use of the fans that were placed on the stage floor, causing their hair to float in the air. It seemed that the audience was more excited about the visual aspects of the performance than musical mastery of

the band, which was rather disappointing.

Before the band decided to end the show, the leading vocalist decided to play a little game with the audience by building a human drum kit. Kakko divided the audience into three groups, and assigned an essential drum part sound to each group. The audience turned into a basic drum set with a cymbal, snare drum and a base drum and unexpectedly found itself "singing" the drum part of "We Will Rock You," with Kakko conducting and singing along.

Overall, it was an out-of-the-ordinary metal concert. Sonata Arctica definitely did a good job of covering for Nightwish and offered an entertaining and engaging performance to the audience.

—Ceylan Tanes & Murat Bilgel



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.ULTIMATEMETAL.COM

Although the original headlining band, Nightwish, didn't perform, Sonata Arctica played a great show.

## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## HOP brings pop concert to Fall Fest Comic Con brings heroes to B-more

By JON TORRES  
For the News-Letter

This year's infectiously catchy Fall Fest concert featured songs that can still be heard in hums around campus.

The line-up consisted of Canadian singer-songwriter Lights, rock band Cute Is What We Aim For and headliners Boys Like Girls. The Recreation Center basketball courts were transformed into a respectable venue for the evening (think high school prom). The set, whether on purpose or due to lack of space, was subtle and placed the focus on the music. There was a fair turn-out for the concert, though a large number of attendees were high-schoolers.

Lights, a talented 19-year-old from Ontario, performed a short set of songs from her recently released self-titled EP and upcoming album, to be released next year. Her attire, a brightly striped headband, gray dress and keyboard guitar, seemed a fitting representation of her music. She definitely had a unique sound — reminiscent of the female singer-songwriters of the '90s alternative era except much happier, created by melodious keyboard, bubbly synthesizing and a soft, pretty voice.

The band, comprised of a drummer and keyboardist, along with the synthesizer, supplied the right notes, and the singer's voice accented them well, creating an ethereal feel to her music. She often danced along to her songs and got some of the crowd to follow but most seemed to be waiting for the next act.

Cute Is What We Aim For, first formed in 2005 with two ex-members of the ska band Cherry Bing, followed Lights. They started off strong with great crowd interaction, making everyone laugh with witty remarks made between most songs. While they



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Cute Is What We Aim For was one of three bands that came to rock the Rec Center Saturday night.

are a rock band, most of their songs had a distinct pop sound. The band members clearly enjoyed playing together, were full of energy and performed solid solos. They leaped across the stage while strumming the bridge, the multi-colored lights flashing in sync with each downbeat.

Their energy translated well to the crowd, with throngs of people jumping and everyone moving to the rhythm. However, most of the songs in the set sounded too similar and repetitive even for pop songs. There were a few attempts at deviation, notably the song "Hollywood," which featured rap-like vocals, an angrier tone and harsh guitar riffs. The change in energy drew out the evening's first crowd-surfer.

Next, Boys Like Girls exploded onto the stage, then onto the speaker equipment right off center-stage as the set lights flashed like strobes, and the backdrop was illuminated. Their music was undeniably catchy and upbeat. The solos and instrumental interludes sounded like the CD recordings, and lead singer Martin Johnson showed the audience some love by throwing practically anything he touched into the crowd.

The guys looked like they

were having a blast, posing together and thrashing across the entire stage. Johnson busted out an acoustic guitar for a few songs, each opening with a single, white spotlight on him while the rest of the band joined in one at a time. Johnson showcased some great vocals that were not discernible in the other songs.

Of the acoustic performances, "Thunder" was a bit too fast-paced and heavy to be justified, but "Holiday" sounded just mellow enough. The band also performed a great cover of Frou Frou's "Let Go," making the song their own with intense instrumentals. The band summoned a somehow untapped energy reservoir and closed with their hit single "The Great Escape."

High-pitched screams rang out, numerous crowd-surfers rode the wave, and the boys pulled off around-the-world guitar tricks while performing a very strong finish to the show. The only point of annoyance about the finale was the disassembling of the set while the band was in mid-chorus.

The concert lasted about three hours and left everyone smiling and eager to dance the night away. Even though the rock/pop music genre gets overplayed on the radio, it doesn't mean it can't be fun to rock to for a night.

Continued from Page B3  
wore a black t-shirt with some undecipherable message on it, long cargo shorts, and Birkenstocks. Surprisingly, the average age was not 18, as I expected, but rather about 30. I imagine the older crowds are those with the resources to make a long trip out to see their favorite writer.

The convention area itself was pretty straightforward. Booths were arranged in a grid pattern, with an area for comic book (sorry, graphic novel) vendors, an area for publishers, one for artists, and of course, the zone packed with long, snaking lines: comic book pros signing autographs.

Alas, I did not recognize any of the names of featured guests. Of course, it probably would have taken Peter Parker himself showing up for me to recognize a name. Jim Lee was there, whose work I did actually recognize from his with Batman and Superman illustrations. Also of note was Mike Mignola, creator of Hellboy. Plenty of fans came with huge stacks of items to be signed — I imagine the secondary eBay market is huge.

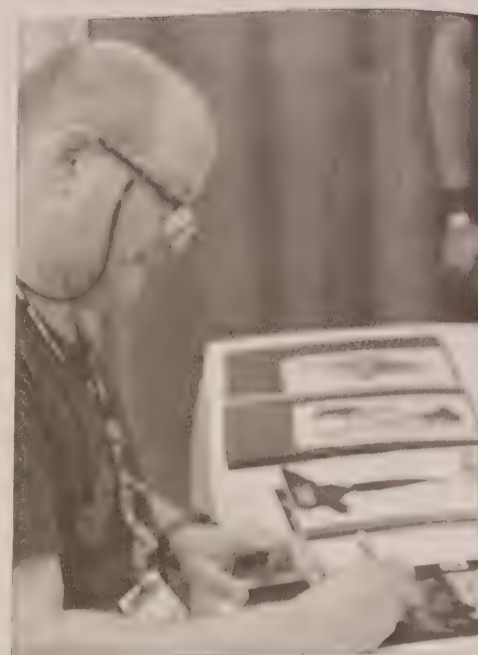
As I understand it, comic cons

usually have cool, exciting events that anyone can appreciate, irrespective of their level of comic fandom. Unfortunately, such was not the case at the Baltimore Comic Con. The only events occurring Saturday morning were panels by DC and Marvel Comics writers. Not to be deterred, I attended these question-and-answer sessions anyway.

Never has there been a higher density of comic book knowledge than in the conference room that day. The fans in the audience were actually arguing with the writers of the books — the writers who created these stories — over details of the plot. There was discussion of "Superman Rogues," implying that not only has Superman gotten out of hand, but he or some villain has cloned him.

The announcement that Harry Osborne — the guy who died in the original Spider-Man movie — was still alive drew a chorus of groans from the audience. The fans, it seems, have a very strong desire to see their stories retain some in-universe credibility.

My ears perked up when the name Morpheus was mentioned. I assumed, wrongly, that they were talking about the



COURTESY OF JOHN KERNAN

Artist Mike Mignola, creator of Hellboy, signs an autograph.

Matrix. It seems "Morpheus" is also the name of some other Marvel hero. When it was announced that *Marvel Zombies 3* will feature Morpheus, a learned gentleman of about 35 proclaimed from behind me "All right!" and triumphantly lifted a fist towards the heavens.

I was pleasantly surprised by a few things at the vendor booths. Top Shelf Comix was there. They are producers of less traditional comics, like the full-color "Johnny Boo," by James Kochalka, which is probably aimed at grade-schoolers, but is crafted so well that you can't help but enjoy it anyway. The publishers at Top Shelf are sure to badger everyone to come to the Small Press Expo, going on this weekend in Bethesda, Md.

Despite my harsh words, though, the convention was full of fun and friendly people just there having a good time. It might not have been the largest, most comprehensive or most engaging comic book convention, but for two days, thousands of people could come together and feel a sense of belonging. For a weekend, the con-goer can become Batman — and everyone else will play along.



COURTESY OF JOHN KERNAN

The most devoted fans came to the convention in costume.

ARTIST  
**Tom Morello**  
ALBUM  
*The Fabled City*  
LABEL  
Red Int/Red Ink  
RELEASED  
Sept. 30, 2008

Tom Morello, known simultaneously as The Nightwatchman, has released his sophomore effort *The Fabled City* after just about a year. The new album gives listeners a reason to take former Rage Against the Machine guitarist Morello seriously.

Tom is like a little boy in that his "seriousness" comes from both imagination and uncensored passion. He is definitely as imaginative as a child, but his song-writing skills make it easier to believe his stories than you would your little brother's. *The Fabled City* is a collection of stories with all of a good tale's necessary elements — character, plot, theme and, especially notable, setting. Almost every song takes place in some specifically named city and time. Vivid descriptions like those in the album's standout "Lazarus on Down," which features System of a Down's Serj Tankian, also set a detailed scene.

Don't you worry about not being able to see and feel for yourself where the "temple steps are smooth and warm." Tom will lead you there on a folk guitar journey. He is able to give his stories a sound that doesn't distract from the words. Tom shows us that we are in a new Wild West.

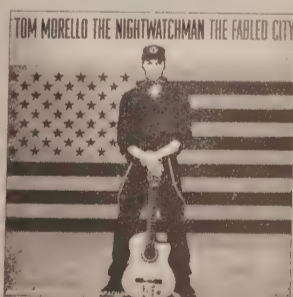
There's tension, surely, but Morello insists we can solve the problems around us, and he is serious about doing so. His passion for resolve shows in his tone. His

voice grows angrier throughout the album and ends with a song so cynical, it's eerie. His story-of-an-album ends darkly.

This last song is called "Rise to Power." It sounds political, but this song and the rest of the album aren't as political as his first solo album *One Man Revolution* and nowhere near as radical as any of Rage Against the Machine's songs. His solo work does contain blues riffs like those that appeared every so often with Rage, like the hints of the blues in the verses of "Bullet in the Head," but Morello, unlike Rage vocalist Zack de la Rocha, doesn't sing of looming swastikas and repeat the line "bullet in your head" 17 times in a row.

Another departure he has made from his work with Rage and Audioslave is from the distorted, scratchy guitar that earned Tom spot number 26 among *Rolling Stone's* 100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time. The Nightwatchman, rather, is an acoustic mix of blues and folk and vocally reminiscent of Dylan or Cash.

— Hannah Cross



## NEW VIBRATIONS

ARTIST  
**Bayside**  
ALBUM  
*Shudder*  
LABEL  
Victory Records  
RELEASED  
Sept. 30, 2008

After listening to *Shudder*, the latest album from punk rock quartet Bayside, one may fairly draw the conclusion that its members are not happy. To be fair, no one can blame them: In 2005, while touring and supporting their new self-titled album, the members of Bayside were involved in a major bus accident, one that claimed the life of their drummer, John "Beatz" Holohan. Instead of choosing to end the tour though, the able members of the band continued, opting to play an acoustic set.

The melancholy glaze that

seems to coat this album can be seen without even opening the case; Song names such as "No One Understands" or "I Can't Go On" can't be expected to evoke feelings of joy or jubilation.

The lyricism, crafted in the same sorrowful vein, remains constant through the album. "Boy," the opening track, gives the listener a glimpse into the life of a depressed teenager, one who must ignore chants of "Go on, give up, you'll never win/No crying now, they're watching him."

Similarly, "I Can't Go On," a plea for relief from a life of self-deprecation and depression, features the verse "I left a note on your bed/I don't recall what it said/It's something like/I'm completely miserable/And I'm better off dead." It can be a little much to listen to this much contained misery.

In the way of musicianship, there's no doubt about it: These guys know what's catchy. The first single from the album, "No One Understands," is guaranteed to be stuck in one's head from the instant it starts. Other tracks are quite hard to forget:

"The Ghost of Saint Valentine" and "Roshambo (Rock, Paper, Scissors)" are definite fodder for humming. Simple guitar riffs and repetitions are employed masterfully.

Herein though, lies the problem: Loyal fans expect more. With very few exceptions, each song follows a similar trajectory, and many of them sound strikingly alike.

One of the songs that does escape this fate is "Moceanu," the final track. It is the only slower-paced, softer song that captures some of the magic that Bayside experienced with *Acoustic*. Unfortunately, a respite from the cookie-cutter nature of much of the album is not very long: "Moceanu" lasts 2:12. It is not to say that this album is "bad." In fact, compared with the millions of punk/alternative songs out there, *Shudder* does stand out. The problem? It does so just barely. For a band that has put out truly revolutionary music in the past, a product so very close to mediocrity must be viewed as a failure.

After hearing the name Bay-

side, a music fan expects a level of quality and inspiration in that band's work. To coast with such an ordinary album is indicative of laziness, fear of attempting

new things or a combination of the two.

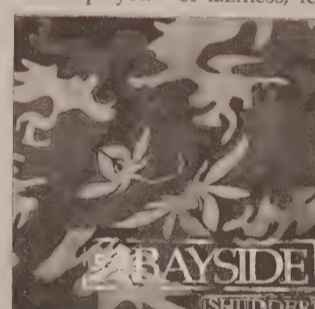
Bayside has the talent, and this album, if it does anything at all, allows the listener to see that they haven't lost their touch.

Glimpses of passion occasionally shine through, and this is encouraging.

Far too often though, the sound of the album descends to the level of run-of-the-mill. Perhaps more acoustic tracks or more experimentation would be necessary to reinvigorate this great band and its members, some of whom have gone through so much.

A track on the album contains the following mantra: "Wicked are the ones who dare to think outside the box." Perhaps this is sadly true, but those ones are also the ones selling CDs.

—Greg Sgammato



ARTIST  
**Ben Folds**  
ALBUM  
*Way to Normal*  
LABEL  
Sony  
RELEASED  
Sept. 30, 2008

Ben Folds has always been the darling of dorky suburban kids with pseudo-angst. Catchy pop melodies banded out on his piano paired with angry yet humorous lyrics are Folds's mainstay. And his new album, *Way to Normal*,

does not differ. For some fans, this might be exactly what they desire, and for others, it perhaps begs the question, "Is this all he can do?"

However, to make that the bottom line of the album is unfair to Folds's gut-wrenching honesty of songs like "Cologne," and "You Don't Know Me," the duet with Regina Spektor. These tracks delicately and openly deal with loss and the difficulty of intimacy, respectively. Folds takes a refreshing break from mirth in the middle of the album and gives the songs the serious attention and tone that they deserve.

Folds's moments of candor on *Way to Normal* are sandwiched by his staples of humor and profanity, such as "Bitch Went Nuts," the third in his series of "Bitch" songs, and "Hiroshima (B B B Benny Hit

His Head)," a tribute to "Benny and the Jets," which tells the story

of a clumsy moment during a concert in Japan. This reference to Elton John is a comparison that critics have made since Folds came onto the scene in 1995 with his band Ben Folds Five.

Jest and mockery have swirled around the release of *Way to Normal* since July when Folds leaked six fake versions of songs on the album. Fans and critics thought Folds had lost his marbles, believing that these songs were straight off the album.

Of course, all of the leaks

sounded legitimate enough that the public ate them up. In an interview with

*Rolling Stone*, Ben Folds confessed the leak was an attempt to make fun of musicians who are unusually secretive about their recording processes and album releases.

It's for these reasons that one cannot help but love Folds and his antics, whether in media or music. Time after time, he takes an in-depth examination of society and morphs those results into something that we all can swallow and understand.

Even on tracks that are not ex-



ceptionally exciting musically, Folds's lyrics rip the listener into reality. Whether it's in the critique of a social obsession with Eastern medicine in "Dr. Yang," or a scrutiny of the nouveau-riche's sense of entitlement in "The Frown Song," Folds first makes you laugh and bop along, but then forces you to re-examine your priorities.

*Way to Normal* is nothing unique or different. Don't expect a surprise — Folds is not aiming for anything new. This album provides him with an opportunity to stretch his legs and get comfortable in what he knows how to do best: baring his heart-break while veiling it in bouncy piano pop and laughter.

— Sarah Sabshon

## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

# Wicked humor and skilled acting save *Choke* Center Stage and Wilder a match made in heaven

By TYLER WILSON  
For the News-Letter

Chuckle, cough, cough, tear, drool — bring a drunk friend to see *Choke*, the new film based on the Chuck Palahniuk novel of the same name for twice the fun. Most people with a dark tint to their sense of humor and a healthy sex drive cannot help but appreciate its twisted feel-good antics. More importantly, the intoxicated tend to form a hilarious and somewhat touching connection with the screen. Tastefully yelling obscenities, laughing hysterically at inappropriate moments, or staring blankly in awe, inebriation prompts several reactions to this film, far from the least of which is a profound sense of respect.

After the third or fourth hush from various audience members, your friend will lean uncomfortably close to you, his breath a fermentation of beer and popcorn, in order to whisper in a tone louder than his normal speaking voice “if I were that guy I would rock that s--- man. He’s getting laid all the time! He doesn’t give a f---; all he needs to do is pretend to build s--- from yore and eat too much.” Although blatantly tactless, this comment (or your friend’s variation of it) aptly captures the essence of this film.

*Choke* misleads many viewers with its advertising. In the first place, the title (which is more appropriate of the book) misdirects the viewer. The main character, Victor Mancini, played by Sam Rockwell (*Confessions of a Dangerous Mind*), causes himself to choke in restaurants. Other diners perform the Heimlich maneuver, and, in the process of saving his life, they develop a connection with him and a sense of bravado. These scenes, however, embody at most a subplot vital for its progression of insightful themes and character traits.

The bulk of the film consists of the pursuit of sexual fulfillment. Along these lines, a secondary misconception stems from its as-



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Sam Rockwell, shown at right with costar Brad William Henke, captures the sharp wit of Palahniuk's flawed protagonist, Victor.

sociation with the legendary neo-noir, *Fight Club*. Chuck Palahniuk wrote the novels that inspired both films; here the similarities between the two end. Despite an underlying morbidity and per-

version, *Choke* is a relatively light-hearted, dark comedy. Expect an uproarious and deranged sex-cade from a colonial theme park to the psychiatric ward of a hospital. For-

get about expert special effects complementing grainy, shadow ridden, green-tinted cinematography.

Writer/director Clark Gregg made his directorial debut with this film and, unfortunately, his lack of experience becomes painfully apparent as the plot progresses. Everything centers around the satirical humor pervading the exploits of a sex addict trying to care for his mentally ill mother. Granted, this humor consistently delivers (imagine the possibilities of a disillusioned, sex-addicted historical interpreter running around a colonial theme park) as would the best of television sitcoms but, it does so at the expense of a dynamic plot structure. An adverse sentimen-

talogy propagated by predictable writing betrays the satire of the work.

A maudlin search for resolve seems uncharacteristic of a complicated anti-hero persisting month by month through an off-kilter, to say the least, existence. Of course the viewer cannot help but sympathize with this character, especially provided flashbacks to his childhood.

His addiction to sex serves as a means of escape and detachment from others, while his choking scam partly allows him to falsify a meaningful connection with someone else. In both cases, his warped attempts at masking or garnering affection originates from the want of a normal relationship with his unstable mother.

Primarily an actor by trade, Gregg draws incredible performances out of the cast. Rockwell shines as Victor Mancini, the film's confused and demoralized anti-hero. He matches the loathsome philandering, fueled by its own depravity, required of his role with a charming wit and a subtle yet persistent sincerity.

The viewer loves to hate Victor, a man determined to keep the world at a distance. So much so, one readily forgives the wantonness of his antics in light of the method and the

sheer exhilaration of their enactment. Anjelica Huston brings a delightful cunning to the role of Victor's deranged mother, Ida Mancini. Constantly transitioning between states of waxing and waning dementia, something about her knowing mannerisms hints at a hidden intrigue providing her character with a pivotal depth. Also of note is Victor's soft-spoken love interest, Paige, played by Kelly MacDonald (*No Country for Old Men*). The grace and temperance of her character provides a refreshing contrast to Victor's non-stop drop not to mention his mother's seemingly illicit disorder.

See *Choke* in anticipation of one of the best dark comedies of the year. Relive the birth of our nation in ways that the history books always seem to neglect. Consider a one-night stand with Sam Rockwell. Learn some things you didn't want to know about sex (or rediscover the undisclosed benefits of yoga and palates; let's cover all the bases here — fair and balanced). For the full effect, consider a tipsy companion.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B3  
as the chaos that characterizes the end of the play.

The duos of Cornelius and Barnaby (portrayed respectively by Michael Braun and Garrett Neergaard), and Irene Molloy and her assistant, Minnie Fay (Kate Turnbull and Keri Setaro), manage to play well off each other. As Dolly attempts to broker a marriage between Irene and Horace, each pair in their own scenes repeat word for word exchanges uttered by the other two, while remaining totally in character.

Laurence O'Dwyer is effective in his portrayal of Malachi Stack as a wise old gnome, whose advice to Horace goes unheeded and whose aside to the audience mocks sobriety as he makes it

clear that one vice is the perfect amount.

There can be no quarrels with the preservation of the tone of the play. The blame for the lack of character development of Ambrose and especially Ermenegarde (who never really develops from a girl with the “soul of a field mouse” described by Ambrose) can be laid only partially with the script.

Similarly, Lee Rosen and Zoë Winters must be faulted for not bringing more to their characters. The lighting was unimaginative and the singing a bit canned.

However, overall, Center Stage's interpretation of *The Matchmaker* is definitely worth seeing and is a production worthy of Wilder.



COURTESY OF CENTER STAGE  
Kate Turnbull and Michael Braun star in the Thornton Wilder classic *The Matchmaker*.

## Peabody Symphony opens with a bang

By DANIEL LITWIN  
For the News-Letter

The Peabody Symphony Orchestra kicked off its 2008-2009 season at the Miriam A. Friedberg Concert Hall with an exceptional performance Saturday night, featuring last year's Macht Orchestral Composition Competition's winning work.

The winning piece, titled “Shadows of the Infinite,” was composed by recent Peabody alum Geoff Knorr. Knorr earned a B.Mus. in music composition, a B.Mus. in recording arts and sciences, and a M.Mus. in music composition. He has received a number of awards and has had his works performed by many orchestras around the country. “Shadows” starts off with a strong downbeat on the timpani, which immediately launches a journey that doesn't end until the very last note. The work lacks any traditional form: For example, there is not one rest the entire piece.

This gives it a very flowing feel that keeps the listener's ears moving the entire time. Assistant conductor Ruben Capriles led the orchestra in this first piece, and he succeeded in evoking the deep emotion clearly embedded in the work. According to the concert program, Knorr himself describes the piece as having an “overall sense ... of majesty, awe and mystery,” which is exactly the feelings the audience was left with at the end of the performance. After a round of applause for the orchestra, Knorr got up on stage to take a rightfully deserved bow. Knorr currently resides in Baltimore, pursuing various freelance projects in composition and audio engineering.

The rest of the concert featured late romantic/early modern composers Richard Strauss and Jean Sibelius. Director Hajime Teri Murai took over the conductor's stand, commanding the orchestra through Strauss's “Don Juan Op. 20.” Strauss started work on the

piece when he was only 23 years old, and it is considered to be one of the first pieces to show the composer's maturity and complexity with which would compose for the rest of his career.

The piece, based on a poem by Nikolaus Lenau, is one of Strauss's first “Tone Poems,” a one-movement piece of music based on some non-musical narrative such as a poem or painting. Strauss composed a significant amount of his work with literary or dramatic inspirations. Murai, who has been Director of Orchestral Activities at Peabody since 1991, was full of energy as he led the performers through the beautifully melodic “Don Juan.”

Without any knowledge of the poem itself, the listener was still able to realize that there was a story behind the music, mostly thanks to Murai and his ability to really emphasize the poetry behind the notes. His clear understanding of the music allowed him not only to lead the orchestra but to really make it his own, a goal to which any great conductor should aspire.

Following the intermission the audience settled right in to embrace the more subtle and intricate “Symphony No. 5 in E-Flat major” by Jean Sibelius. Sibelius, while still considered one of the most popular composers of the 20th century, underwent significant criticism during most of his career, many critics arguing that his work lacked complexity. “Symphony No. 5” is an illustrative demonstration of Sibelius's talent as a composer.

The first movement of the piece experienced a troubled start at the concert, as the audience was clearly not as enthralled as it had been with the

Strauss. By the end, though, most had forgotten that there even had been a preceding piece. The third movement includes one of Sibelius's most famous motifs, a simple but beautiful melody played at first by the flutes and the strings which are then joined by the horns just in time for what is known to be one of Sibelius's most original endings: Each of the last six chords receive a full beat followed by complete silence, a surprising but perfect conclusion to a wonderful piece of music. Walking out of the hall, one could hear those same four measures of the Sibelius motif being hummed by many concertgoers.

By the end of the concert, the overwhelming mood of Friedberg Hall could only be described as the feeling of knowing something was done just right. The music was not only played properly and correctly, but the orchestra was truly able to exhibit what the composers were attempting to convey with their works of art. The conductors brought out the best in the orchestra and the best in the music. If this is at all a sign of things to come, we can definitely expect great things from the Peabody Symphony Orchestra this season.



COURTESY OF THE PEABODY INSTITUTE  
The PSO awed the crowd at their first show of the season.

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# SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

## Food and climate change: an invisible problem Genetic method helps scientists track proteins

By **JOCELYN WAGMAN**  
Staff Writer

The next time you're about to bite into a juicy steak, consider the impact your dinner has on global warming.

If the idea that the two are linked comes as a shock to you, that's just the problem. Food and agriculture's contributions to climate change are underreported in newspapers across the country, as a new study out of the Bloomberg School of Public Health shows.

"Yesterday's dinner, tomorrow's weather, today's news? U.S. newspaper coverage of food system contributions to climate change," is the title of a paper published in the journal *Public Health Nutrition* this month.

From Sept. 25, 2007, to Jan. 28, 2008, the study says, 16 leading U.S. newspapers gave scant coverage to the link between food or agriculture and climate change or global warming.

"We were quite surprised to see just how dramatic the lack of coverage was," Roni Neff, co-author of the study with Iris Chan and Katherine Clegg Smith said.

"Out of 4,582 climate change articles in 16 top circulation U.S. newspapers over a 29 month period, we found that only 2.4 percent even mentioned food or agriculture contributions to climate change, and only a half percent mentioned livestock contributions."

While newspaper coverage has been minor, the problem itself is anything but. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization reported in 2006 that 18 percent of greenhouse gases worldwide come from livestock production alone.

Carbon dioxide is probably the most notorious of the greenhouse gases because it is so commonly produced in processes integral to our daily routines, like driving cars and heating houses. However, it is crucial to understand the environmental impact of other greenhouse gases as well.

"The food industry has mostly stayed in the climate change shadows compared to other industries such as energy and car-makers," Neff said.

Nitrous oxide and methane are the greenhouse gases most associated with agriculture and food production.

They are emitted through manure, fertilizers and enteric fermentation — the process through which bacteria break down plants in cows' stomachs, producing methane as a byproduct of digestion.

Carbon dioxide contributes to the total emission of greenhouse gases as well, through transportation and manufacturing.

Neff saw the discrepancy between the magnitude of the emissions and public perceptions as a chance to figure out how to better communicate with the public.

"I wanted to see the extent to which this and other related messages about food impacts on climate change were getting out to the public," Neff explained.

"We wanted to know both how much the public was hearing and to learn about *what* they were hearing. Learning this information can help shape more effective messages in the future."

But these messages aren't going to send themselves, which is where government and business can help.

"Major changes are needed and are relatively unlikely with-



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.ARCHIVES.GOV/ONCA](http://www.archives.gov/onca)  
Farming of livestock, particularly cattle, is a major contributor to global warming.

out significant public buy-in," Neff said.

"We can't expect buy-in or behavior change without basic awareness of the problem, as well as communication about possible ways to address it."

It also important to note, however, that the government and businesses have the potential to mislead consumers.

"As we move into the next phase, as communications about food contributions to climate change do increase, it will be important to ensure that accurate messages are getting out," Neff said.

"There is a history of other industries promoting messages that serve their purposes but that are either inaccurate, serve

to promote doubt or confusion or that prioritize actions in ways that experts would not agree with."

So be wary of inaccurate messages, and don't underestimate the power of the individual. There are some things you can do to reduce the negative impact of your interactions with the food system and benefit yourself at the same time.

"The number one action we can take to reduce food greenhouse gas emissions is cutting back on red meat. This has important nutritional benefits, as excess red meat consumption is associated with a host of negative health impacts," Neff said.

Don't worry, carnivores, you have a few other options in case you're still salivating at the sight of your steak. You can avoid highly processed and packaged foods, eat less dairy, eat seasonal foods, try to eat foods that are locally and sustainably produced and eat less in general.

More specifically, check out our local farmer's markets, like Waverly Farmer's Market and Mill Valley Garden and Farmer's Market, to get your hands on some seasonal and local foods that are healthy and delicious.

And of course, spread the word.

"Coverage of food and agriculture's contributions to climate change has been low in the U.S., meaning there is tremendous opportunity to amplify the messages and to mobilize individuals, business, and government for change," Neff said.

By **TIFFANY NG**  
Staff Writer

Proteins are one of the essential building blocks of biological systems, but with as many as 100,000 proteins in the human body alone, isolating, purifying and characterizing them is no small feat.

In a collaboration among experts at Hopkins, Georgetown and Harvard, molecular biologists have developed a way to add antibody-binding regions to specific proteins in their natural cellular environment. Antibodies that correspond only with this extra region bind to it and tag the protein, allowing scientists to track the protein inside cells and tissues.

"This is an especially useful approach when studying a newly-discovered protein to which antibodies are as yet unavailable," senior researcher Todd Waldman said.

Waldman, who received his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees at

Hopkins, is currently on faculty at Georgetown. Ultimately, these tagged proteins then can be easily purified and visualized using microscopes to study their structural and biological properties.

Tagging proteins involves attaching a small segment of DNA to the gene that codes for the protein of interest. This segment adds a chain of about 10 additional amino acids to the gene, which is then "read," and protein is synthesized.

This added chain is called an epitope. Scientists can combine these modified proteins with antibodies, which will bind specifically with the epitope and act as molecular flags. And voilà! One tagged protein ready for action.

However, where this happens is the difference between the routine and the impossible, until now. "One important disadvantage to the standard, commonly used epitope tagging approach has been that it could only be applied to proteins whose gene had been cloned," Waldman said.

In this study, recombinant DNA was used to insert the epitope-coding DNA into genes in their natural chromosomal lo-

cation, or endogenous genes. Therefore, human proteins can be tagged in their normal genetic environment.

This technique avoids the limitations found in cloning, where the expression and transcription of the cloned gene cannot be well-regulated. In cloning techniques, genes are modified in cultured cells and then transplanted back into an animal or plant. The new approach allows natural cellular processes to take care of the regulation themselves.

Furthermore, this study created human cell lines with two epitope-tagged cancer-related genes. This would allow scientists to identify and study proteins involved in causing cancer.

In the future, this technology will be used to track specific genes with cancer-causing mutations. Because the epitope-encoding DNA is added to the gene itself, the protein will always be tagged, no matter how much the actual gene mutates. In this

fashion, scientists can track the changes the protein is undergoing since it can always be identified by its epitope tag.

The creation of similar cell lines, containing endogenous epitope-tagged genes, would be useful in identifying new protein complexes.

Improved protein purification would also result from this new tagging method, since proteins created from cloned genes can be significantly less active than those synthesized from the original gene.

This new method has important ramifications in the field of pharmaceutical drugs, since therapeutic proteins are widely used in medicine. Such treatments include insulin for diabetes patients, blood clotting factors for individuals with hemophilia and erythropoietins, which control red blood cell production, for people with anemia.

If therapeutic proteins that are purified have been created endogenously, or inside the human body, they are likely to be much more effective than their cloned counterparts.

## Mouse cells can regulate genes from fish

By **DEANNA CHIECO**  
Staff Writer

Every cell in your body contains every gene in your genome. So how is it that one set of genes is expressed in your brain, and an entirely different one is expressed in your stomach?

The answer is gene regulation. Using a series of proteins called transcription factors, a cell will turn on only certain genes at certain times. A recent study from Hopkins and the National Institutes of Health shows that gene regulation machinery can be transferred between species.

A team led by Andrew McCallion of the McKusick-Nathans Institute of Genetic Medicine at Hopkins looked at the regulation of a gene called Sox10. The study of regulatory genetic sequences is a growing area of interest in developmental biology.

"These are the 'switches' for genes which tell them when, where and how much gene product is required — they underlie the cellular complexity that is generated from a single complement of genes," McCallion said.

The Sox10 gene is expressed in the developing embryo but is gradually turned off by some cells, particularly in a class of cells called neural crest cells. These are stem cells that will turn into pigment cells in the skin, neurons releasing adrenaline and glia — supporting cells in the nervous system.

"Sox10 is a developmentally critical gene, expressed in many cell types during development and it is mutated in a collection [of] developmental and neurological diseases. We set out to identify the sequences which controlled its function," McCallion said.

Sox10 is important for development because it is a transcription factor that regulates gene expression in neural crest cells. If different genes are turned on in some neural crest cells and turned off in others, this leads to specialization into different cell types. Also, the Sox10 gene itself can be regulated, and the research team found that it could be controlled by DNA close to the Sox10 gene.

The researchers examined how DNA next to the Sox10 gene in mice could affect the regulation of the same gene in zebrafish, which is a well-studied organism in embryology. They hypoth-

esized that regulatory DNA from one species could work in another species.

Since both mice and zebrafish have well-developed nervous systems (not as good as humans but definitely better than a worm), they both have a need for Sox10 to help neural crest cells specialize.

The Sox10 in zebrafish does not look exactly the same as the gene in mice, but there are still some sequences that they have in common. These conserved sequences are probably a clue to the core function of Sox10.

The investigators discovered that the regulatory sequences from mice actually would control the expression of the Sox10 gene in zebrafish. This is interesting because zebrafish do not have regulatory sequences that look like the ones in mice.

"As we have seen before, genes often possess many regulatory sequences with overlapping function — suggesting that gene activation is not a binary (ON/OFF) event. Zebrafish provided fantastic and accurate insight into the way these sequences functioned when we tested them in mice," McCallion said.

There were two regulatory fragments in particular that seemed to be the most important in regulating Sox10. These were Sox10-MCS4 and Sox10-MCS7, where MCS stands for multiple-species conserved sequences.

These two fragments, if deleted, led to a reduction in gene expression of Sox10. Not only are these regulatory sequences, but they actually enhance the expression of Sox10 when present in their complete form.

It was also discovered that certain sequence fragments led to very specific control over one type of cell. For example, Sox10-MCS7 may be most important for pigment cells rather than other neural crest cells. If this region is deleted, the mouse exhibits hypopigmentation. So a given regulatory sequence may be used more for certain cells than others.

However, the biggest finding from this research is that Sox10 is an enhancer for all neural crest-derived cell types. It is important in pigment cells, neurons in the peripheral nervous system and glial cells.

Mutations in this gene lead to major problems in development

of these systems.

"We have shown in this and other studies that regulatory sequences likely utilize a vocabulary that distinguishes their functions," McCallion said. "This will begin to guide our search for disease risk mutations in the human populations."

"The goal is to be able to say *a priori*, 'We are interested in genes that are used in cell X at time Y or in response to stimulus Z,' and select the corresponding sequences from the genome for analysis in patients and unaffected individuals to look for differences that correlate with disease so we can evaluate their impact."

By **SAM OHMER**  
Staff Writer

In 2007, the National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA) began the task of observing our closest planetary neighbor, Mars, with the help of one serious piece of machinery: the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO).

One of the key devices on MRO, the Compact Reconnaissance Imaging Spectrometer for Mars (CRISM), created by the Applied Physics Laboratory at Hopkins, is beaming back a detailed map of the Martian surface.

"All of us involved in CRISM

are very excited to be working on it, because it's been providing previously unseen evidence [that] Mars had liquid water in its past and might have supported life," APL scientist Scott Murchie said.

Mars, of course, is of particular interest to scientists, as it provides an analog for Earth, giving scientists a glimpse of a fate that might one day befall our own planet.

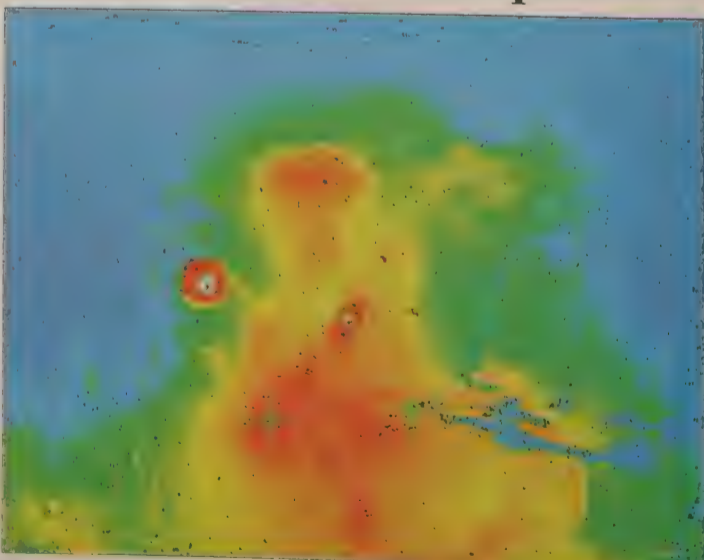
In fact, there is a great amount of debate over whether Mars was once a lush, aquatic planet like

Earth currently is, in contrast to its current frigid, dusty state.

Part of the CRISM instrument's mission — along with other orbiting and ground-based spacecrafts — is to find evidence of water, past or present, on the Red Planet.

The target of CRISM's observations are very distinctive reflective patterns caused by sunlight glancing off of water trapped in certain minerals on Mars's surface.

The minerals



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An interactive map of mineral concentrations on the Martian surface is now available online.

that CRISM is trying to detect are finicky and will not form unless water exists, or has existed, in the environment.

CRISM has been doing a pretty fantastic job so far. In less than a year, the database of CRISM images has already topped the 4,000 mark and is steadily creeping towards an even more impressive library.

Scientists are patching together these spectroscopic images to create a detailed map of the chemical makeup of Mars. This map will be useful in future missions to the planet, as well as in finding ancient areas of water.

"In the long term, our tar-

geted observations are increasingly focusing on regions of the planet with the best exposures of mineral layered in Mars's crust, as seen by the multispectral survey and corroborated by targeted observations," Murchie said.

CRISM's mission is not all tourism and photography, though; It is also tasked with finding precisely the right place for the Mars Science Library to start roving around on Mars itself.

This new mission, the next in NASA's Mars lander series, will be searching for traces of organic molecules on Mars's surface, so it's important to pick out the right research area.



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The Applied Physics Laboratory's CRISM instrument is on board the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter run by NASA.

## Hubble catches rare galactic alignment



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The Hubble telescope, which is run from the Homewood campus, has taken images of two spiral galaxies in close proximity.

## Hormone therapy mimics stomach stapling

By CELESTE LIPKES  
For the News-Letter

Scientists at the Hopkins Medical School are one step closer to finding a less invasive alternative to bariatric surgery. Earlier this month, Aravind Arepally and his colleagues successfully suppressed the production of the hunger-inducing hormone, ghrelin, in pigs by damaging the main vessel that carries blood to the top of the stomach, where ghrelin is produced.

The pigs' ghrelin production was severely reduced, which lowered their appetite and led to weight loss.

Bariatric surgery — an umbrella term for any procedure in

which parts of the stomach or bowel are removed or altered to facilitate weight loss — is effective, but often risky and expensive. The most common variant of this procedure is often called "stomach stapling."

Even if the brain says 'produce more ghrelin,' GACE physically prevents the stomach from making the hunger hormone.

— ARAVIND AREPALLY,  
SENIOR RESEARCHER

Arepally's team achieved the same appetite-suppressing effects as bariatric surgery by injecting sodium morrhuate, a blood-vessel destroying chemical, into the left gastric arteries of growing pigs. This process, called gastric artery chemical embolization (GACE), cuts

off the major blood supply to the top of the stomach, or fundus, where approximately 90 percent of ghrelin originates.

Without proper blood supply,

ghrelin production was inhibited by up to 60 percent from baseline.

"Ghrelin fluctuates throughout the day, responding to all kinds of emotional and physiological scenarios," Arepally explained in a statement last week. "But even if the brain says 'produce more ghrelin,' GACE physically prevents the stomach from making the hunger hormone."

For over 10 years, attempts to safely suppress ghrelin have had very limited success. Meanwhile, the need for effective, alternative weight loss options is growing as fast as Americans' waistbands.

Arepally's team is the first to achieve the same results as bariatric surgery by chemically vaporizing the main vessel to the fundus with a relatively simple, one-time injection of sodium morrhuate.

"Obesity is the biggest biomedical problem in the country, and a minimally invasive alternative would make an enormous difference in choices and outcomes for obese people."

## Chicken-sized dinosaur fossil found in Canada

Paleontologists at the University of Calgary in Alberta, Canada, have announced the discovery of a new dinosaur. The 70-million-year-old dinosaur is the smallest ever found in North America.

Called *Albertonykus borealis*, the slender bird-like creature was approximately the size of a chicken and is believed to have fed on wood-burrowing termites. The fossil specimens come from two animals and consist solely of the arms and legs.

Like other members of the *Alvarezsauridae* family, *A. borealis* is believed to have had a fairly small, stream-lined body with tweezer-like jaws. The dinosaur has been described as something out of a Dr. Seuss book.

*A. borealis* had very long, slender hind-legs, which probably allowed it to be an agile runner. The front hands were stout with large claws. Paleontologists believed the front hands were used for burrowing and finding insects.

While proportionally the front limbs are even shorter than those of a Tyrannosaurus Rex, the arms were powerfully built. Paleontologists hypothesized that *A. borealis* used its front claws to bury into insect mounds and nests.

The problem was that 70 million years ago, ants and mound-building termites did not exist. This left the possibility that the bird-like creature fed on tree-burrowing termites. Fossilized remains of termite borings in wood discovered in the same vicinity lend credence to this claim, supporting the idea that this dinosaur fed on termites.

The bones of *A. borealis* were discovered at Dry Island Buffalo Jump Provincial Park in Alberta in 2002 by a team from the University of Alberta. The bones were stored until they were examined in 2006 by Dr. Nick Longrich at the University of Calgary.

The research is detailed in the August issue of the journal *Cretaceous Research*.

## Science Briefs

## Ancient fossil offers insight into bird evolution

A 50-million-year-old skull of an ancient goose discovered in England is giving new insight into a unique ancient line of birds.

The skull, discovered on the Isle of Sheppey off the coast of England, had one very unusual attribute: its beak was lined with bony teeth.

The bird, which has been assigned to the extinct species *Dasornis emuinus*, had a 16-foot wingspan and resembled an albatross more than a goose.

While paleontologists have discovered other fossils of bony-toothed birds, this new fossil is the first substantial skull of a very large Paleogene, an ancient bony-toothed bird.

It is one of the most well-preserved specimens ever found in the London Clay deposits, which surround much of London, Essex and northern Kent in south-east England.

Like modern birds, the new fossil specimen had a beak made

of keratin, the same protein that forms fingernails and hair in humans and other mammals.

Teeth have actually arisen twice in the bird lineage. While all birds lost their true teeth over 100 million years ago, *Dasornis* and other bony-toothed birds known as pelagornithids re-evolved pseudo-teeth made of the same keratin protein as the beak.

While the pseudo-teeth were not preserved in the fossilization process, two pits which would accommodate teeth were observed.

Ancestors of modern birds may have lost their teeth in order to save weight, making flying easier, but *Dasornis* re-evolved teeth for dietary reasons.

Much like modern-day albatrosses and geese, *Dasornis* likely skimmed the water's surface to catch fish or other aquatic animals for food.

The pseudo-teeth would have allowed the ancient bird to maintain a tight hold on its prey, preventing the meal from slipping away.

These findings have been described in the Sept. 26 edition of the journal *Paleontology*.

—All briefs by Husain Danish



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Scientists found two skull fossils of ancient bony-toothed birds on an island in England.

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5000  
SANDWICHES



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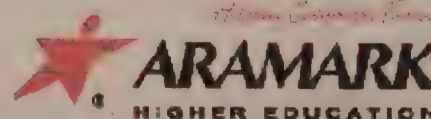


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# YOUR NEWS-LETTER



BRITINI CROCKER/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Color-coding your binders by subject makes it easier to organize your notes for different classes. This will make studying easier.

## From the organized desk of ... you!

By SARAH CAPPONI  
Staff Writer

Now that school is in full swing and I have my first Intro to Chemistry midterm coming up, my stress level has hit absolute maximum. Between extracurricular activities and homework and meals, I barely have enough time to sleep.

I realized earlier this week that in order to keep from spontaneously combusting from stress, I have to do *something*. So I made a conscious decision to get organized.

I hustled myself over to Barnes & Noble and bought the essentials: two planners, one monthly and one daily. These two things let you plan out short term and long-term goals in a highly visual manner.

The monthly planner is used for long term planning — any exams, projects, events, or appointments go in that book so they become constant remind-

ers. Since monthly planners show a full month at a glance, every time you look at the calendar, your schedule is mapped out for you.

Daily planners should be small enough to fit in your backpack or purse, and they should catalogue everything immediate you need to accomplish on that specific day. This includes everything from homework to laundry, but each separate activity must be prioritized. Unless you have absolutely no underwear left, laundry does not take precedence over homework.

Get into some type of system where you check off accomplished tasks — cross them off, star them, white them out — so that you feel good about yourself for reaching your goals. This seems like a ton of work, but it is actually very therapeutic and cleansing.

Just taking the first steps towards getting organized feels like a huge weight is being lifted off your shoulders. However, I cannot lie — the really fun thing about doing this was the time I spent in the bookstore picking out the cutest planners I could find.

Going along with the cute school accessories idea, while you're in Barnes & Noble (or the school supply/bookstore of your choice), decide on a method for organizing your schoolwork. Do you like all binders, all note-

books, or some of each? Color code your binders and notebooks — this seems anal, but it works, trust me.

After you write every single detail of your life down in those planners, take some time to clean your space. Clear out your desk, rearrange all your drawers, put up posters on your wall, and stack your textbooks.

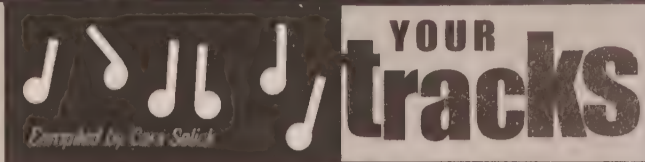
While you're at it, delete your cluttered e-mail inbox of all the spam and e-mails from three years ago; erase all your old voicemails and text messages. Make a conscious effort to answer all your e-mails and text messages immediately, instead of waiting.

Fewer appointments fall through the cracks if you deal with them and record them immediately. Stick with the clean scheme. You'll notice that the lack of clutter will help your mind feel less cluttered and more able to focus on one thing at a time.

In between cleaning and writing, hopefully you will notice a pattern emerging in your days. As you become accustomed to visualizing your schedule mapped out in your head and on your calendar, you will find a surprising amount of wiggle room.

Then you can add some variation to your life — schedule gym time, movie night, a special date. You'll still be able to get tons of needed activities accomplished without succumbing to a mundane schedule.

Then the challenge falls to you to actually follow your organizational plan. You now have all the tools, but if you refuse to use them, your desk, life, and mind will fall back into disarray. And that choice lies solely in your capable and hopefully newly organized hands!



While the '90s may now seem like a lifetime ago, the songs we loved back then still seem to pop up in the most unexpected of CD collections and mp3 players. We know all the words, still. We enjoy them, still, in the privacy of our cars and showers. And we love them all, whether we'll admit it out loud (or in print) or not.

### 1. "Baby Got Back" — Sir Mix-A-Lot

For me, this song signifies all that is good in this world. Clever rhyming, men who appreciate a large female back-side and some of the funniest lines in a song ever. "My anaconda don't want none/unless you got buns, hon." The only song that could possibly trump this is "The Humpty Dance" by Digital Underground, but unfortunately that was released in 1989, just before the cutoff for this playlist.

### 2. "Waterfalls" — TLC

Still a powerful song, not to mention a catchy chorus. While the song itself may be extremely serious, it's always a good laugh to try and sing "but I think you're moving too fast" as low as Tionne "T-Boz" Watkins (who appeared as the lead vocalist for the group less and less as they became more "pop").

### 3. "Wonderwall" — Oasis

First of all, the accents are just a hoot. Some may find them sexy, some whiny and annoying, but the fact of the matter is, everybody has heard them. A staple song of the '90s, this generation is still wondering if today will be the day that they'll throw it back to us.

### 4. "Fly" — Sugar Ray

I hold this song in a special place in my heart, due to the fact that it is the first music video I recall ever seeing. The green room, walking on the walls, underwater shots ... all of it stunned me. Not to mention the fact that the song is incredibly catchy and still a staple in my driving playlist on my Ipod, to this day. While it may be nothing like the rest of the album it was on (I remember being shocked that it had a parental warning label!), "Fly" was the pop diamond in the ruff which catapulted Sugar Ray to fame.

### 5. "One Week" — Barenaked Ladies

How can you not like this song? This is a rhetorical question. Because you can't! It is fast, it is clever, it is catchy (at least the chorus is, for those who can keep up), and it is hilarious! Learning all the lyrics was one of the proudest moments of my life (now to conquer "We Didn't Start the Fire"! "Like Harrison Ford I'm getting frantic/Like Sting I'm tantric/Like Snickers guaranteed to satisfy." I think this song is definitely like Snickers.

### 6. "...Baby One More Time" — Britney Spears

When we think '90s, we think pop. And we think pop, we think Britney Spears. And when we think Britney Spears (circa 1990s) we think school girl uniform, pink puffs in her braided pigtails, and far too much skin for a 16-year-old. Just the way we all wish we could remember her.

### 7. "Good Riddance (Time of Your Life)" — Green Day

I'll admit it, I love Green Day ... but only circa the '90s. Sorry, but, for me, American Idiot just doesn't do it the way Dookie and Nimrod did. This song (called by any combination of the two names) is not the typical of the Green Day sound, true, but it was one of their most well-known songs. It was sung by people who preferred all genres and frankly, was just a good song. Poignant and prosaic, this song touched a generation and started a new graduation song craze.

### 8. "Livin' la Vida Loca" — Ricky Martin

How can anybody forget the first time they saw this fiery Puerto Rican shake his "bon-bon" in tight leather pants. Although the life he describes in this song sounds a little too crazy, this song made dancing worthwhile in 1999.

## A therapeutic stay at the Heartbreak Hotel

By ELYSHA CHANG  
For the News-Letter

My summer was pretty phenomenal. I read approximately seven million books; I took up drawing; I choreographed a musical for a philanthropic organization; I picked up the one thousand pieces of my broken heart. Oh, that's right. I forgot to mention that some guy plucked the tender flower of my loving affection, and then tried earnestly and unsuccessfully to put it back.

It's no big deal. I'm not too swollen with pride to admit that someone didn't want to date me. We've all been through this, right? Right? Well, if you haven't been through it, you're in luck! Because I'm also not too proud to give you a heads up on the many characteristic symptoms of a heartbreak you will undoubtedly come across.

and full of answers.

But beware! This seemingly happy path to recovery may be periodically visited by some ponderous behavior. For example, I became an avid and repetitious caller of my previous ex to whom I hadn't spoken in several years.

Another example: when asked if she suffered any of these bizarre symptoms, a friend answered, "I think I'm a repeat offender of the most ponderous and inexplicable post-breakup idiosyncrasy of all: getting back together." For the sake of her relationship, this friend chose to remain anonymous.

In another particularly baffling move, I became determined to sleep outside on the lawn of my parents' house for the rest of the summer. Rejecting my queen-size bed and down comforter apparently struck me as the most logical way of sticking it to the man. Not "the Man," just that man, really.

So I drunkenly — oh, yes, I was drunk — careened about the house, gathering flashlights and sleeping bags. I must have thought it symbolic to have many sleeping bags and many flashlights, instead of depending on just the two singletons.

The rest I don't remember as clearly, but I vaguely recall humming "Changes" by David Bowie while arranging patio furniture in a circle around my sleeping bag(s). To create a protective and musical ring defending me from dangerous wildlife, obviously.

You might be wondering where I'm going with this. Is outdoor-sleeping an effective cure for a heartbreak? Did I, despite my precautions, get mauled by the neighborhood raccoons? Did I have pleasant dreams? No, dear



ANNE FABER/GRAPHICS EDITOR

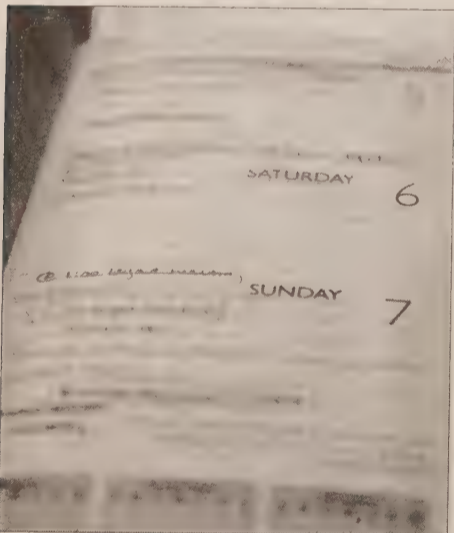
friends. Nothing extraordinary happened.

You know why? Because our lives aren't the books and movies I so tearfully alphabetized. There are no abrupt, exciting moments that miraculously drop awareness in our inconsolable laps. What we have is more subtle and much better: changes so imperceptible that we don't recognize them until they have made us new and different people.

At six in the morning, my mom found me outside. I was misty and probably drooling a little. I plodded inside and slept wonderfully. By the end of the summer, I'd say the post-breakup ordeal was largely a success.

I didn't get the terrible job, and the screen on the ex-ex's phone turned out to be broken so he was, and still is, unaware of several late-night calls made by yours truly. Also, every collection of media I own is now conveniently alphabetized.

In the end, I found myself actually having a positive outlook towards all the turmoil I endured post-breakup. After all, I may not have won at that particular relationship, but overall, I think I won the war!



BRITNI CROCKER/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

A day planner is useful for writing reminders to yourself.

## your HOROSCOPE



### Aries: (March 21 - April 19)

Get your broke ass a job, otherwise your landlord won't let you keep using his sleazy futon as a mattress to sleep on.



### Taurus: (April 20 - May 20)

Up in Alaska the polar ice caps are melting and insect rates remain the highest in the country. So, buy some shorts and court your sister.



### Gemini: (May 21 - June 20)

Off-the-charts smarts doesn't necessarily mean that you have proper socialization skills. For example, you go to Hopkins.



### Cancer: (June 21 - July 22)

Your day will take a turn for the worse when you find out that your uncle is really your biological father. Ew.



### Leo: (July 23 - Aug. 22)

Asses are like opinions. They come in all shapes and sizes, but you can always be certain that they will be very sexy.



### Virgo: (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

Go go gadget horoscope! That's typically how we go about predicting all of your futures. Aren't you in good hands?



### Libra: (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)

Enjoy the brisk weather now, because soon you will be holed up in the library for days on end with midterms.



### Scorpio: (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

The wheels on the bus go 'round and 'round. The Collegetown will be late. But it will still go 'round and 'round.



### Sagittarius: (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Awesome things are coming your way this weekend. Avoid falling down the San Andreas fault line, because that's not one of them.



### Capricorn: (Dec. 23 - Jan. 19)

Events will make you begin to reevaluate your life. For instance, is drinking every night of the week really that great of a plan?



### Aquarius: (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

This time next year you will again be in classes, unless you graduate. Or die. Or fail out of school. Actually, we have no idea where you'll be.



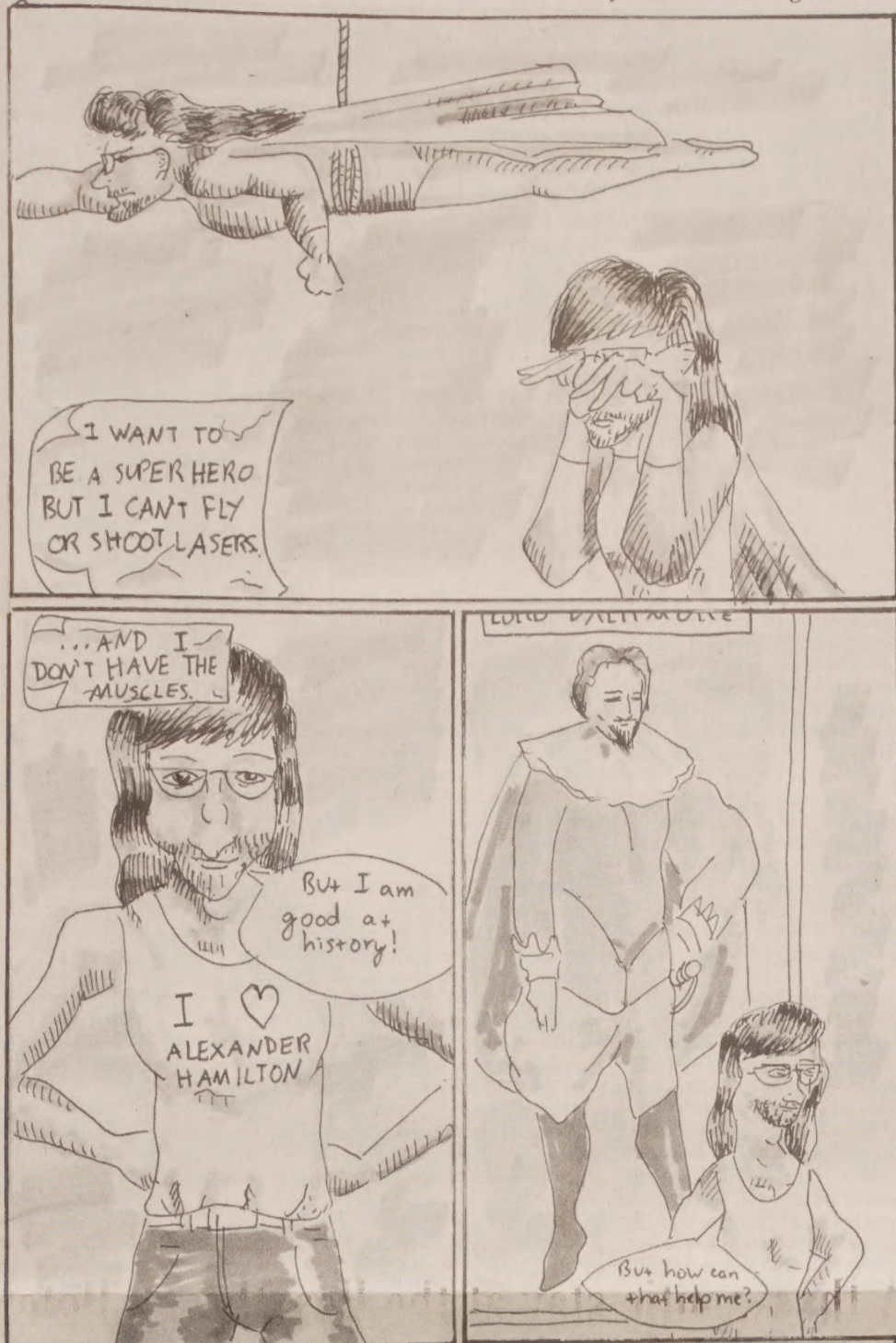
### Pisces: (Feb. 19 - March 20)

Weak morals will lead you astray so you better beware and stock up on some ethical philosophical readings in preparation. And condoms.

# CARTOONS, ETC.

**B.A.D.**

By L. R. Greenberg



## Pun Intended

WARNING: A CEREAL KILLER IS ON THE LOOSE AT HOPKINS.

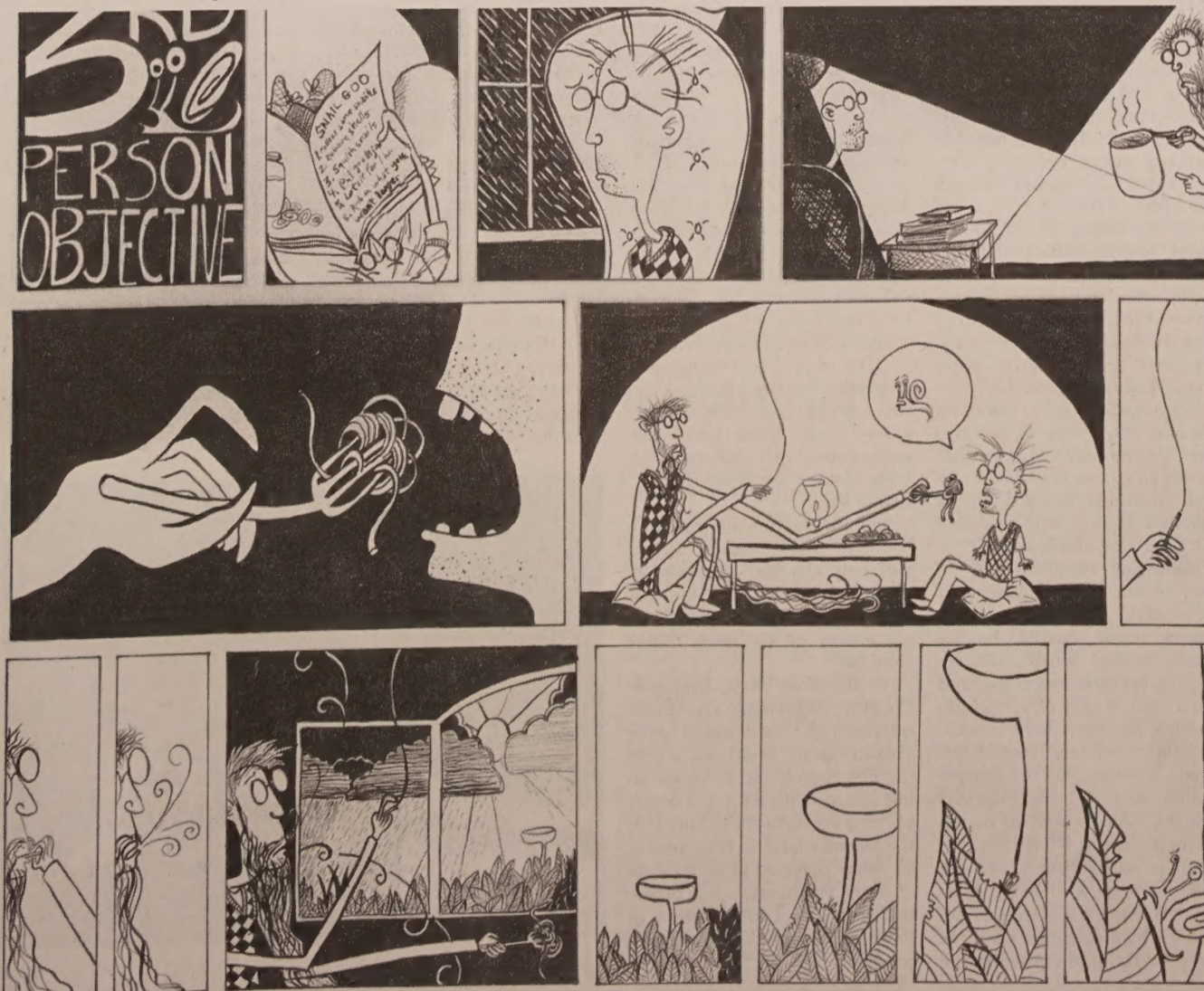
Our latest reports show that students who don't have their first class until near noon have been the latest target of this raging maniac. They skip breakfast, the most important meal of the day, in an attempt to rush to class after waking up at 11:45. Yes, it is definitely something to worry about.

Breakfast foods everywhere are fearful. This killer prevents them from being consumed by oversleeping students.

While we may not be able to swallow this killer, there are things you can do to keep your body safe and your metabolism at the highest level of security. Set your alarm, go grab a bowl of oatmeal and don't let the cereal killer murder your appetite.

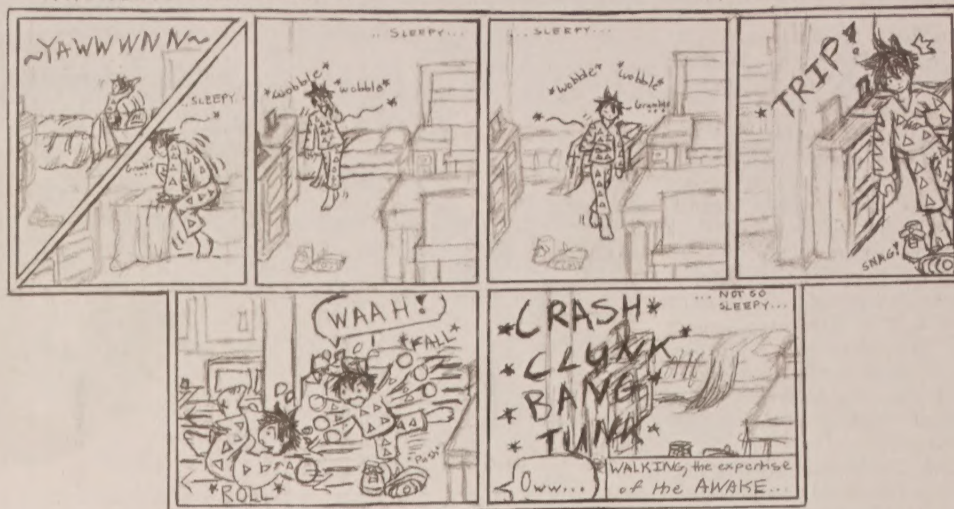
### Third Person Objective

By B. G. Warner



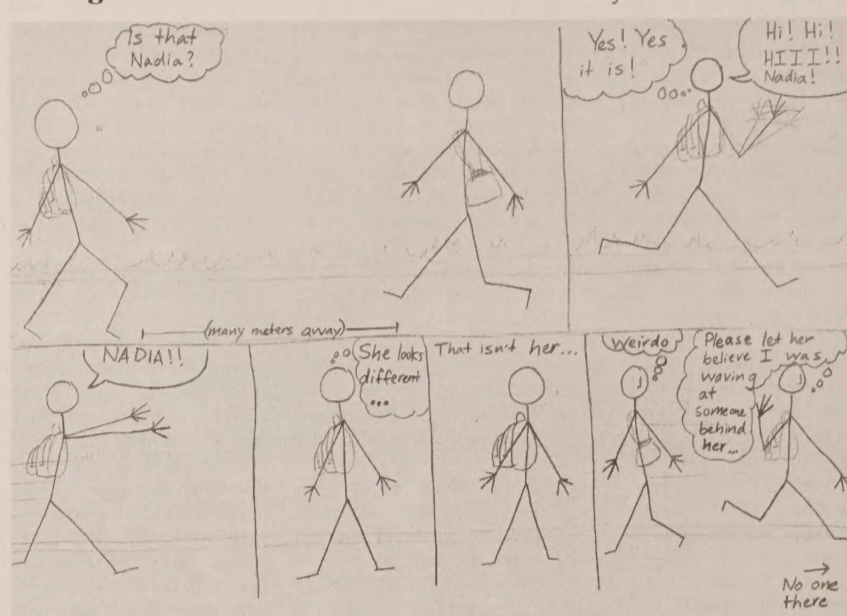
WALKING HALF-DEAD...

BY SHOKOMON ^-^



## The Stranger

By Ruchee Shrestha



# The Menopausal Market

**S**tock market, stock market, stock market: the only thing more fickle is my menopausal mother's body temperature. In some ways, I feel that that is a slight to my mother on more than just the obvious level (hi, Mom), but in other ways I feel that the comparison is a fair one.

Now, it is high time to offer solutions to problems — the stock market and its hot flashes being the most glaring and pertinent at the moment. I think that it is more than fair for me to offer a solution to the problem, one that has never been heard before and probably never will be again (at least if the American electorate has some conception of common sense ... well, even if it doesn't).

You see, the problem is that about six or seven years ago I could have offered a very witty, thoughtful comparison of hormone replacement therapy and its possible ability to curb the market's menopausal symptoms, such as fickle temperature. However, there were of course more than a few influential studies that showed that hormone replacement therapy is also considerably carcinogenic; And clearly the brokers on Wall Street currently have enough to worry about without having to get regular mammograms. But — and that's a big butt — seeing as those influential reports did come out and were quoted pretty incessantly in the likes of the *Harvard Medical Journal*, *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, and *People* magazine that particular analysis would not be particularly fruitful.

However, I will not let these reports get the better of me! I will continue on for the good of the global economy, as any excellent journalist would, though my connections will probably not be quite as beneficial or, well, logical as in that previous example. I fancy myself pretty flexible and I am therefore able to make the odd stretch to keep my ingenious metaphorical paradigm — influenced only partially by my mother's symptoms (hi, again!).

The following is my amended, but still very convincing and interesting perspective on the recent failings and fluctuations of the stock market (through the lens of menopause) and all the lessons we and our politicians

can learn therein:

The first point seems to be so obvious that I can't believe politicians and economists alike have overlooked it. As much as it pains me to say this to all of the men and women out there hard at work for their respective MBAs (not that I'm showing them much respect), this menopausal period of the stock market proves beyond a reasonable doubt that the market, in its current incarnation, is simply past its sexual prime. That is, after all, the primary hallmark of menopause! Now FDR managed to inject a bit of libido into the market following the great ovulation crash of 1929 (how it was always referred to in my family), but even a strict Freudian analyst couldn't undo the inevitable damage that has been inflicted on the economy over the years.

What we need to take from this is that there needs to be not merely an injection of libido, testosterone, or any other chemical/metaphysical agent to reinvigorate the sexual abilities of the current market system; We need a new one, more than capable of bearing big.

**Bremer** more than capable of bearing big, healthy, well-nourished, genetically appreciated and perfectly nurtured piles of cash! Now this doesn't mean simply picking up that Dutch system from the red-light district and implementing her. No, the global economy needs to take an initiative to recruit young, supple, and incessantly ovulating 18 and 19-year-olds to get their jiggy on, if you will.

Now, in the long term this might be a very difficult thing to accomplish; But, just as the people of the world need to reduce their dependence on nonrenewable resources through the nurturing of alternative energy, so must we devote our energy to this regard. We must all go to the frat parties to nurture these young women ... I mean stock market systems — I know I will.

In conclusion: If you are between the ages of 16 and 20, possessing all the necessary characteristics to provide for the new, improved and incessantly ovulating market system listed above and if you are looking to support the global economy, please call me or any other journalist, politician, or overall important person at (410) 516-4356. And I — they — can arrange a meeting.

## Jeremy Bremer

healthy, well-nourished, genetically appreciated and perfectly

## SPORTS

## Moravian delivers Jays' first loss of the season

By MIKE YUAN  
Staff Writer

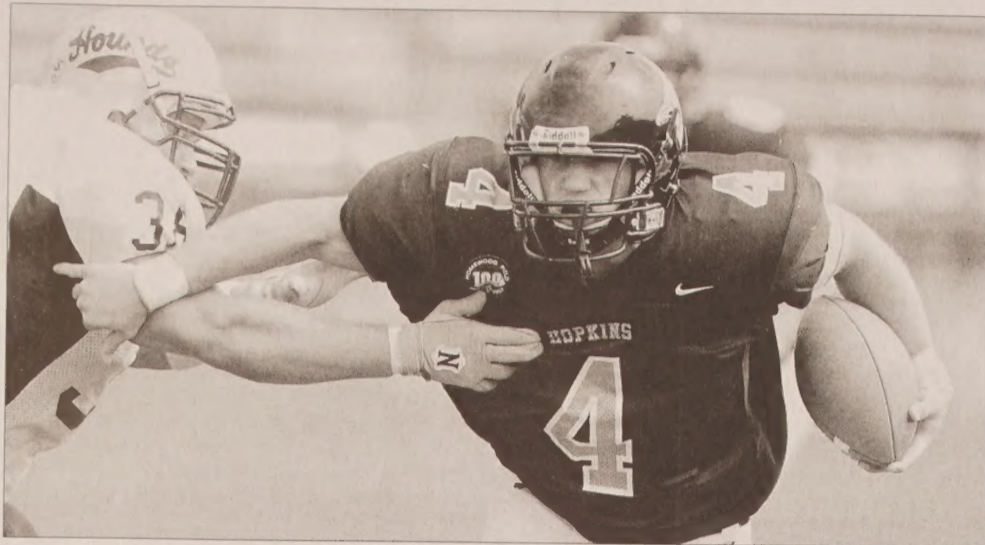
The clouds and rain in Bethlehem, Penn. acted as an overcast background for the Hopkins football team's fourth game of the season. Host Moravian College welcomed the Jays to Rocco Calvo Stadium, both teams heading into the match-up undefeated. Prior to Saturday's game, Hopkins led the Centennial Conference, scoring 40.7 points per game, outscoring its opponents 122 to 71, while the Greyhounds held a 92-33 advantage against their first three opponents. The Greyhounds entered the game as the top rushing team in the Centennial Conference with 295.7 yards per game.

The Greyhounds won the coin toss and deferred to the second half. Moravian took advantage early, as freshman running back Nick Fazio fumbled the opening kickoff, allowing Moravian's David Wacker to recover the ball at the Blue Jay 22-yard line. On the first play from scrimmage, Tyler McCambridge ran unchallenged around the left end for the first touchdown of the game.

After a punt from the midfield in the Jays' ensuing possession, the Greyhounds' quarterback Marc Braxmeier found McCambridge on third down, who ended up running 81 yards for the touchdown, giving Moravian a 14-0 lead just over five minutes into the game.

Soon after, Hopkins went on a 45-yard drive that spanned nine plays, ending in a 14-yard touchdown pass from freshman quarterback Hewitt Tomlin to sophomore wide receiver D.J. Hartigan. Sophomore kicker Alex Lachman connected on his 38th straight extra-point, making it 14-7.

Moravian was forced to punt in its ensuing possession, but Tomlin fumbled the ball away while being sacked on the first



Senior defensive back Chris Baldwin snags an interception. Baldwin has had three interceptions this year, two for touchdowns.

play, leading to a 22-yard field goal from Moravian kicker Brian Reckenbeil five plays later.

Freshman running back Lyndon O'Conner rushed for 30 yards on the next drive, adding a reception for seven more before Lachman nailed a 34-yard field goal with 10 minutes remaining in the first half to make it 17-10.

The chances were there for the Jays in the waning minutes of the first half, but an interception by Erik Brinkerhoff deep in Moravian territory ended one drive, and time expired on Hopkins' final play of the half, ending the run at the Greyhound 15-yard line. The Jays' defense did its job as well in the final minutes, as Moravian's two drives ended in Reckenbeil just missing a 41-yard field goal and a punt.

Hopkins, which came into the game leading the Centennial Conference in turnover margin at a plus-eight, had four turnovers in the first half, but still had gained 279 yards of offense, including 127 yards on the ground.

After the first three drives end-

ed in punts, the Hounds would get the ball on a fumble from junior running back Andrew Kase. Moravian sophomore linebacker Michael McClarin recovered the ball at Hopkins' 48-yard line. Braxmeier hit senior wide receiver Tyler Williams with a 33-yard pass to move the ball into the red zone to eventually set up a 28-yard field goal by Reckenbeil, extending the Greyhounds' lead to 20-10 with 5:21 to go in the third quarter.

Six plays into the fourth quarter, Reckenbeil tied Moravian's school record with his third field goal of the game, a 30-yard kick with 11:52 to play, giving Moravian a 23-10 lead. Reckenbeil came on to break both the school records for field goals in a game and total kicking points in a contest when he made a 26-yard attempt with 4:48 left to play. Moravian would run seven plays with senior tailback Tyler deRouen finishing off the scoring on a 12-yard touchdown run with 1:15 left in the contest.

"We still felt pretty good at half when we were only down seven because we pretty much did everything wrong that we could have in the first half," Kase said. "To have four turnovers and only be down seven isn't bad, but we did the exact same thing in the second half and never really got much going offensively."

"Considering the hole we put them in, I think our defense played pretty well," Kase added.

The Hopkins offense gained 114 yards in the second half, including 65 yards on the ground, led by Kase, who had 117 yards on 23 carries, the tenth time he has rushed for more than 100 yards. O'Connor added 49 yards

on seven carries, while Tomlin added 24 yards on three carries and was sacked once. Tomlin went on to complete 24 of 42 passes for 201 yards with a touchdown and two interceptions. Sophomore wide receiver Tucker Michels caught a game high seven passes for 58 yards. Hartigan added six catches for 54 yards while freshman wide receiver Sam Wernick had four receptions for 13 yards.

Moravian was held more than 100 yards below its rushing average as deRouen and McCambridge rushed for 70 and 64 yards, respectively. Braxmeier was 10-of-21 for 182 yards with the one touchdown, while McCambridge had three receptions for 90 yards and the one score.

Currently, Hopkins holds a 3-1 record overall, and a 1-1 record in the conference. The Jays next face off against Muhlenberg in a conference match-up at Homewood Field on Saturday.

"Muhlenberg is the fifth-ranked team in the country and is known for its speed and athleticism on defense, along with a pretty creative zone-blitz package and an offense that is extremely balanced and efficient," head coach Jim Margraff said.

When asked about how he'll approach Saturday's game, Margraff responded, "Our focus will mostly be on ourselves. In the last three weeks we have 'set the table' for our opponents with a special team's or offensive turnover that has resulted in a short touchdown, and we've given up a long pass completion for a TD in the first quarter. We've basically been spotting our opponents 14 points; it finally caught up with us this past weekend."

## Field hockey still on track for perfect season

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B12

Followed by Vandersall, Miller ripped a backhand shot to give the Jays a 3-0 lead at half. The Swarthmore team assessed their damages during the break, but hadn't seen half of the Hopkins havoc. Only 2:34 into the second half, Vandersall found the goal once again on another dribble for her second of the day; She was not done yet. She finished her first career hat trick at 52:40, following a goal by Miller. Hopkins finished out the scoring at 61:00 with a tip by Katie Wong off senior Leah Horton's shot. This victory not only showed the tenacity of the offense, but also the dominant defense that only allowed three shots throughout the game. The Hopkins women sealed their eighth season victory.

Sunday's game against Virginia Wesleyan had the same atmosphere as Saturday's match, so what better day to break a record? This must have been on the mind of captain Emily Miller when she tallied her sixth career hat trick to lead the Blue Jays to a 10-1 victory. Before this match, Miller was only two goals shy of the career goals record set by Beth Cariello in 1994. She now stands alone with 50 career goals with plenty of time to set her own legacy this season.

The game started with a blistering pace set by a goal from junior Catie Farrow, scoring just 23 seconds in. The intensity stayed with the Jays, starting with two goals by Vandersall and the first goal of the match for Miller, only to have 14:11 missing from the first half. Sophomore Jenn Motylinski tapped on in 19:58 to have the Wesleyan defense look on in shock, as this game was quickly becoming a blowout. Sophomore Lindsay McKenna wrapped up the scoring of the first

half by firing a breakneck shot, following a penalty corner taken by Kelly Kimmerling. Hopkins was truly showing why they are receiving first place votes in the polls, as they led 6-0 at half.

The Jays didn't need any adjustments to their game strategy, so they came out like a nationally top-ranked team. Only 4:49 into the second half, Miller tipped in a shot by Branchini, to give her the second of the day. Two minutes later, Emily Miller stood alone as the record holder with 50 career goals. Branchini received a goal of her own after two assists at 46:59, with a lifted shot over the goalie. Virginia Wesleyan scored their first and only goal at 60:40. Scoring was ended by freshman Annie Shepard at 69:50 with the assist by fellow freshman Kelly Schwarz, the first of their careers at Hopkins.

Another dominant game played out by Hopkins put the shots tally 50-6.

The Centennial Conference honored both Emily Miller and Leah Horton as Players of the Week for their performances this weekend. Miller was named Offensive Player of the Week, while Horton was named Defensive Player of the Week. Both had a spectacular set of games this week, amounting to five goals and one assist by Miller, and a defense anchored by Horton that only allowed nine shots and one goal.

Leaving this week, Horton is only one assist shy of the career assist record; So don't expect it to be long before the field hockey team begins breaking more records.

The 9-0 Blue Jays return to play on Wednesday, against Dickinson in Carlisle, Penn. This match-up is set to start at 4 p.m.



FILE PHOTO

Senior Emma Hiza gives it her all in a long-distance competition last season.

## Cross country holds its own against Division-I teams

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B12  
everything is going smoothly: "Right now the season is going according to plan, and I expect big things out of both men's and women's teams at the end of the season when it matters most."

The main concern right now for the men's cross country team is the youth and relative inexperience of its members, considering 19 of its 29 members are freshmen and sophomores. But this doesn't worry freshman Mickey Borsellino.

"I think our development and maturity will allow us to be strong competitors for the next several years to come," Borsellino said. Coach Allen believes that the team has the leadership to guide the young team to make a run down the stretch.

"The men are going to be much stronger and more mature down the stretch and they have great leadership and determination right now," Allen said. "I think they will do whatever it takes to finish in the top five in the region and we can only hope that the committee finds us worthy of being at [the] NCAAs."

Will the women's cross country team maintain their awesome start and meet high expectations as well? According to Coach Al-

len, "Our women are running fantastically right now, but we still have a lot of room for improvement. It's a good feeling for everyone to be ranked 12th in the nation right now on the women's side, but that doesn't help us achieve our goals. We have to stay focused, and continue to work hard in all areas of our sport."

The outlook for the women's cross country team looks relatively good as they return their top seven qualifiers from last year. Coach Allen is sure that the women's team is healthy and deep enough to last the season and make a championship run.

"Our women are certainly looking to be the favorite in the NCAA Mideast region although there are many very strong teams that we will be challenged by," Allen said. "But our goal is to win the region to secure one of the automatic spots to NCAAs."

Both teams look forward to their competition down in Orlando in less than two weeks against Division I programs such as the University of Miami, Florida, South Carolina and Houston. But after such a great start, one of those large schools is looking to be upset by our titan Blue Jays.

By TRISTAN MOHABIR  
For the News-Letter

It's been quite a week for Carolyn Warren. The Hopkins freshman followed up her victory at last week's Franklin & Marshall Invitational, where she defeated teammate Mallory Willenborg in the finals, by making it to the semifinals of the ITA Southeast Regional Championships this weekend. Warren tore through her first two opponents, dropping a total of just four games through the first two rounds.

In the round of 16, Warren faced seventh-ranked and second-seeded Lauren Caire of Washington and Lee, and scored an upset in three sets, after dropping the first. In the quarterfinals, the ninth seeded Warren again faced Washington and Lee player Meg Spalitta, easily handling her and only dropping just two games in the match. Warren's impressive run was ended by eventual champion Laura Chen of Carnegie Mellon, who prevailed 6-2, 6-2 in the semifinals.

Following Warren's lead, junior Anita Bhamidipati and sophomore Abby Dwyer also posted strong results. Bhamidipati, seeded fourth, double-bageled her first round foe, and lost a total of only eleven games through her first three rounds. In the quarterfinals, Bhamidipati faced Courtney Chin of Carnegie Mellon. After a hotly contested first set, Chin proved to be too much, prevailing 7-5, 6-1. Bhamidipati is no stranger to the big stage, having made it to the quarterfinals of the ITA Southeast Regional Championships all three years she has participated in the

tournament. Dwyer improved on her second round showing at last year's tournament by advancing to the round of 16. She cruised into her showdown with Spalitta, conceding just four games through two rounds. A Hopkins-Hopkins quarterfinal featuring Warren vs. Dwyer was not to be, however, as Spalitta defeated Dwyer in a tough three-setter.

Junior Amanda Schubert, sophomore Yasmine Elamir, and freshman Mallory Willenborg all advanced to the second round. Schubert defeated Jenn Powell of Muhlenberg 6-1, 7-5 before going down to Trelsie Sadler of Washington and Lee 6-4, 6-3. Elamir defeated Maggie Bai (Hollins) 6-2, 6-3 in the first round, and Willenborg was a 6-0, 6-1 winner over Virginia Edahl of Sweet Briar.

"The competition was pretty tough this weekend, but with our new recruits our showing was pretty great; We're completely excited about this year and anticipate making top 10 minimum," Elamir said.

On the success of freshman Carolyn "KK" Warren, Elamir had only the highest praise to give: "Our new freshman KK Warren made it to the semis, and we expect to see great things from her."

In the Blue Draw, freshman Courtney Boger made a run to the quarterfinals. She defeated Leslie Polaski (Sweet Briar) 6-2, 6-0 in the first round, and followed up her victory with a 6-1, 6-4 defeat of Anna Perocchi (Byrn Mawr) in the second round. In the round of 16, Boger defeated Joceyln Lewis of Mary Washington 8-4, before falling 8-2 to Laura Pattillo of Washington and Lee in the quarterfinals.



CONOR KEVITT/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sophomore midfielder Ariana Branchini struggles to take the ball from an opponent.

## Warren leads the pack as women's tennis closes fall season

The Hopkins women were less spectacular in doubles play, as three of their teams lost in first-round action. The lone bright spot was the tandem of Bhamidipati and Dwyer, who advanced to the round of 16. In their first match, the two defeated Fahrner-Iosue of Salisbury in a tight match, pulling out a 9-7 victory. In the next round, they were defeated 8-1 by Chin-Herrick. Warren and Willenborg lost 8-3 to Morris-Yeatman of national runner-up Washington and Lee. Yasmine Elamir and senior captain Brittany Matava lost a close match to Sadler-Lukas 8-6. Junior Ellen Berlinghof, also a captain, teamed with Boger, but the duo fell 8-1 to Spalitta-Reed.

Under the guidance of fifth year Hopkins coach and former tennis pro Chuck Willenborg, the women figure to have another outstanding year. Last year, they went 10-0 in conference play, giv-

ing the team its first ever Centennial Conference title.

"This is my fifth year, and we're building up," Willenborg said. "We didn't graduate anybody from our top six last year, so we should be favored to defend our conference title, and possibly make top 10 at nationals."

On the team's chances of success this season, junior Amanda Schubert said it best. "We've been practicing hard this fall and it definitely paid off, as our team managed to defeat some highly-ranked players. We're all looking forward to the spring season. With all of last year's starters returning, combined with new freshman talent, we should be able to get some pretty big wins this year."

The Hopkins women are done with their fall schedule, and will be back in action starting Feb. 22, when they host the George Washington Colonials.



FILE PHOTO

Junior team captain Amanda Schubert stretches out to hit a wide forearm shot.

SPORTS

Water Polo drops two in Baltimore

By CHIP HARSH  
Staff Writer

Hopkins water polo hosted the first two home games of the season this past weekend, on Friday night against Bucknell and on Saturday afternoon against Princeton. Hopkins entered the weekend ranked 18th, but suffered two unfortunate losses.

A solid student section came to support the Jays for the home

ground and a pair of goals from junior Reid Fox and senior Josh Krantz brought Bucknell's lead to only two goals. But in the minute before halftime, Bucknell had increased its lead back to four goals.

In the third quarter, Kratz and fellow senior Peter Davis each scored for the Jays, but Bucknell put four more goals on the board to take an 11-6 lead into the fourth quarter.

game affect their aggressive attitude. The match against Princeton began at noon and was once again supported by many of Hopkins's young alumni. Coming into the game, Princeton was ranked 19th, one spot behind Hopkins, and this showed as the game came down to the wire.

The Jays were the first to score with a goal by Fox in the second minute of the match. Hopkins would score five more goals in the half, all of which were answered by the Princeton squad. With less than two minutes to play in the first half, the Tigers tied the match at six. Then, with three seconds left in the half, Princeton scored an unanswerable goal and the Tigers had their first lead of the game, 7-6.

Princeton was first to score in the second half, extending their lead to two, and followed that up with a three goal to one run, the lone Hopkins goal by Gertridge. But the Jays would respond with a run of their own, including two goals from Davis, and would trail 11-10 going into the final quarter.

Once again, Princeton started scoring, tacking on a goal less than a minute into the fourth. Senior Alex Bond and sophomore Josh Barrett scored two goals to tie the game at 12. Princeton continued to battle and scored another goal which was answered again by junior Pete Sauerhoff keeping the match tied at thirteen.

With less than four minutes to go, Gertridge gave Hopkins its first lead since the second quarter. But Princeton scored two unanswered goals to give Princeton the 15-14 hard earned victory.

Even though the team dropped both its games over the weekend, there were some bright spots. Junior Kyle Gertridge scored eight goals, giving him a team leading 25 goals, and the 14 goals against Princeton were the most for the Jays since their season opener.

Hopkins will continue to battle it out in the pool this weekend in California. The team will travel to Claremont to play four matches on Friday and Saturday.

The team will then meet rival Navy at home next Tuesday. Hopkins is 1-1 against Navy so far this year, after defeating them earlier in the season for the first time ever. On Oct. 10 will be the final home match, versus George Washington, before the playoffs begin.

The fourth quarter would fare no better for the Jays. Bucknell scored two goals to take a seven goal lead. Gertridge would score his third goal of the night late in the fourth, and junior Eric Stewart would also tack on a goal, but it would not be enough as Bucknell downed Hopkins by a final score of 13-9.

On Saturday, the squad did not allow the previous night's



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
Senior Peter Davis calls for the ball against Bucknell on Friday night in Baltimore.

opener against Bucknell Friday night. Hopkins lost the match 13-9 against the Bison, whom the Jays will face at least once more this season.

The Bison got off to a quick start, scoring the first five goals of the match. Two and a half minutes into the second quarter, junior Kyle Gertridge scored the first goal for Hopkins. Despite the late start, Hopkins gained



CONOR KEVIT/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Senior Nick Gauna maintains his balance while trying to get the ball over a McDaniel defender during this past weekend's win.

M. soccer shuts out Neumann, Haverford

Continued from Page B12  
Championships and had been ranked first by the Centennial Conference coaches (expecting to win with a total of 77 points) on Aug. 25, the Jays have their sights on a three-peat of the Championships. The five most dominant teams going into the end of the season will get a ticket to the Centennial Championships, which will be held at the top team in the conference. The top team will also get a buy in the first round of competition. Having been ranked to win this championship and having won the championship multiple times in the past, Hopkins needs to play every upcoming conference game as if it were the most important game on their schedule. After all, the

Centennial Conference Championships get the ticket to the NCAA tournament

As you can see, this conference game against Haverford was taken seriously by the returning champions, the Jays. They began the game with a punch as sophomore Scott Bukoski scored a goal in the 12th minute of play. This was his ninth goal of the season, leading all conference scorers and tying ninth in school history for most career goals at 29 goals. Being only a sophomore, he will have much more time to improve his record and hopefully surpass old ones.

The playing conditions for the game were not ideal for either team, as it drizzled and rained, making the turf rather slippery.

The Jays continued on, but the level of competition seemed about even on both sides of the field. Although Hopkins was more technical in the first half, they didn't capitalize much and were disappointed.

In the second half of the competition, Hopkins had many opportunities to score, controlling the ball for the majority of the time. In the 59th minute of play, Max Venker sent a ball into the middle of the box off a corner kick, which was headed in by senior midfielder Matty Carlson. This goal gave Hopkins insurance when heading into the end of the game as they won, 2-0. With five saves, Matt Mierley had completed his third shutout of the season and his seventh career shutout.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK  
LAURA PAULSEN - CROSS COUNTRY

Paulsen leaves opponents in the dust, but keeps teammates close

By MIKE SUMNER  
Staff Writer

Has anyone ever been cut from a team? It's an experience most of us have felt at some point. Laura Paulsen was cut too. When she was a ninth grader, her family made a long move from Colorado to Maryland. In a brand new school, not knowing anyone, Laura decided to try out for tennis to meet people. It didn't work out. Still looking for a sport to play, she saw that cross country had no tryouts and that everyone was accepted. Jump ahead several years later, and Laura Paulsen is sitting pretty at the top of the Centennial Conference. She's the Dickinson Invitational Champion, the Centennial Conference "Player of the Week," and now she's the News-let's choice of "Athlete of the Week."

I don't think anyone thought that freshmen could make it so far, least of all Laura. "Sure, I liked running when I started. But I kept at it and got better." She's been running every season since that fall in ninth grade, and that strict training regimen has turned her into a champion.

Just this past weekend, she helped the Hopkins women's cross country team place third at this weekend's Colonial Inter-Regional. Paulsen herself placed 12th with a time of 22:28. Admittedly not a headline-grabbing placing or time, but it becomes all the more impressive when you take into account the fact that the event

was made up of Division I teams, with Hopkins the only Division III team at the tournament. The two teams ahead of the Jays were Michigan State and William & Mary, two teams currently ranked in the top 25 nationally — again,

when asked what she would like to add, Laura immediately turned the attention to her fellow runners. "I'm not running by myself. We have a great team."

How easily people forget, myself included, that cross country is a team sport. Running next to someone, having that kind of encouragement close by has helped many runners work harder to win the race. And as she said, even if she were to win every race, it would not matter if the rest of the runners did not race well.

As if putting an exclamation point at the end of her statement, she even said she preferred it if she wasn't "Athlete of the Week." Instead of turning the spotlight on herself, she asked if she could share it with the rest of her team and get billed as the "Team of the Week." Unfortunately I can't oblige her, but I can let everyone know that, though they have only away meets and tournaments



BRITNI CROCKER/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
Laura Paulsen has starred for women's cross country during the fall.

Division I, not Division III. Two weekends ago, Paulsen finished first in the Dickinson Long/Short Invitational, leading the Jays to their first place overall team finish. In her first meet in early September, she won her third straight individual Baltimore metro title. On Sept. 23, Paulsen was named Centennial Conference women's cross country runner of the week.

But even when racing the toughest opponents, Paulsen's mantra is simply to stay calm. "I just try to relax and time myself. From there I just focus on catching the girl in front of me." A simple enough plan: Play catch-up until there's no one in front of you. Who's going to argue with one of the more experienced runners on the team?

While being named "Athlete of the Week" is an honor in itself,

on their schedule, school-wide support of this talented group of runners should be paramount.

Paulsen, only a junior, is working to help the Jays improve on last year's showing, which saw them place 29th at the NCAA championships and saw Paulsen earn All-regional honors. It's a tough thing to improve upon, but there's no doubt that the Jays will do it as they have all season, as a team.

VITAL STATISTICS

Year: Junior  
Major: Biomedical Engineering

**Hopkins Highlights:**  
Won both the Baltimore Metro Invitational and the Dickinson Long/Short Invitational. Came in third in the Colonial Inter-Regional.

AROUND THE LEAGUE

Volleyball 13-4 overall, 1-0 Centennial Conf.

Field Hockey #3 in NFHCA poll  
9-0 overall, 2-0 Centennial Conf.

Football 3-1 overall, 1-1 Centennial Conf.

Men's Soccer 8-2-1 record, 2-0 Centennial Conf.

Women's Soccer #5 in NSCAA poll  
7-0-2 record, 3-0 Centennial Conf.

Water Polo #18 in CWPA national poll  
5-9 overall



# SPORTS

## THIS DAY IN SPORTS

2005 — For the first time in NFL history, a game is played outside the United States. This precedent-starting match-up was held in Mexico City and pitted the San Francisco 49'ers against the Arizona Cardinals. The Cardinals won by a score of 31-14.

## CALENDAR

FRIDAY  
W. Soccer vs. Haverford 7 p.m.

SATURDAY  
Football v. Muhlenberg 1 p.m.  
Volleyball v. Haverford 1 p.m.  
Field Hockey vs. Muhlenberg 5 p.m.  
M. Soccer v. Muhlenberg 7:30 p.m.

## M. Soccer fights for third consecutive shutout

By **ROCKY BARILLA**  
Staff Writer

With a 4-0 decision against Neumann and a 2-0 decision against Haverford, the Hopkins men's soccer team remains undefeated in conference play with three consecutive shutouts, totaling five shutouts for the season.

Although the team began their season with a 3-0 loss to Buffalo State, the Blue Jays came back strong with multiple wins, leading them to their impressive current record of 8-2-1.

Sophomore midfielder Evan Kleinberg said, "We've had better season starts in the past. This year we started off shaky but caught a good streak. Right now, our team goes into every game expecting a win and will not be happy unless we achieve just that."

Last Wednesday, the Blue Jays took on the Neumann College Knights in Aston, Penn., winning the game with four unanswered goals. Junior Max Venker led the first half scoring with one goal in the 29th minute of the game, assisted by sophomore defender Kevin Hueber, and another in the 43rd minute of the game.

Going into the second half of the game with two goals from Venker, the Jays continued their offensive streak. Kleinberg scored a penalty kick goal in



Senior midfielder Akash Naik sprints past a Haverford defender to re-gain possession of the ball in Saturday's shutout game.

the 53rd minute, and senior defender Robbie Carper closed out the scoring for the game with a goal in the 65th minute, assisted by Kleinberg. Junior goalkeepers Ravi Gill and Matt Mierley both contributed greatly to this shutout win.

"Our team chemistry is very impressive," Kleinberg said. "There are many players that hold the team together and keep us focused. We went into that game believing that we were better than Neumann. That helped us put two more goals away in

the second half, after our two goal lead in the first."

After beating non-conference team Neumann College, the Jays must face up against a Centennial Conference team — Haverford College. As they departed to Haverford, Penn., Hopkins had high standards and expectations for the conferences.

"This team has more talent than any other team that I've played with," Max Venker said. "Although we didn't start off the season as strong as we would have wanted, I have faith that

we'll continue to win and bring back another championship."

Since they won the last two consecutive Centennial Conference

CONTINUED ON PAGE B11

## Field hockey still on track for perfect season

By **GERALD BILLAC**  
Staff Writer

Undeniable offense and an unrelenting defense; This is the combination the Hopkins field hockey team has created this season. The Jays are now ranked #4 in the NCAA polls with their stunning 9-0 overall record. Their two latest victims: Swarthmore and Virginia Wesleyan. These two opponents walked onto the Homewood Field aching to knock off the top of the conference, but trudged off soaked and defeated. The Jays blasted through their weekend matches with the poise of champions. Saturday's game against Swarthmore ended in a 7-0 domination, which was very similar to Sunday's game against Virginia Wesleyan, which ended in a 10-1 commanding victory.

"I have great anticipation for the season, and that starts with my three captains," head coach Megan C. Fraser said. "They're outstanding leaders and huge contributors on and off the field."

The pouring rain and cheering fans, combined with the intensity of the match, set the tone for the Hopkins defeat of Swarthmore on Saturday. Through the pelting rain, the Jays saw their way to the goal only 7:04 into the first half.

Sophomore Ariana Branchini lifted a pass from captain Emily Miller over the defense for the first goal of the day. Junior Andrea Vandersall saw the first of her three goals just four minutes later, after dribbling through the Swarthmore defense, unassisted.

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Final  
Swarthmore 0  
Hopkins 7

## Lady Jays brave the storm to win nail-biter

In the pouring rain, the women's soccer team topped Swarthmore after a 75-minute stalemate

By **PHOEBE CAMPBELL**  
For the News-Letter

If you went outside this weekend you probably quickly realized your mistake as you stepped out into the torrential rains that swept through Baltimore County. As the city huddled under umbrellas and sought shelter indoors, the Lady Jays soccer team braved the elements to post a 1-0 win over Swarthmore.

The weather severely hampered the play of both teams this Saturday, but Hopkins battled through it for their sixth win of the season. The Jays are now 6-0-2, 2-0 in the centennial conference and quickly making their way towards the top of the division rankings.

Heading into the home game undefeated at Homewood and with one of the best starts to the season in the team's history, there was every confidence

of a potential win.

The Jays showed their immense skills in a tough fight against not only Swarthmore, but also against

prizes at the tightness of the game and the low score.

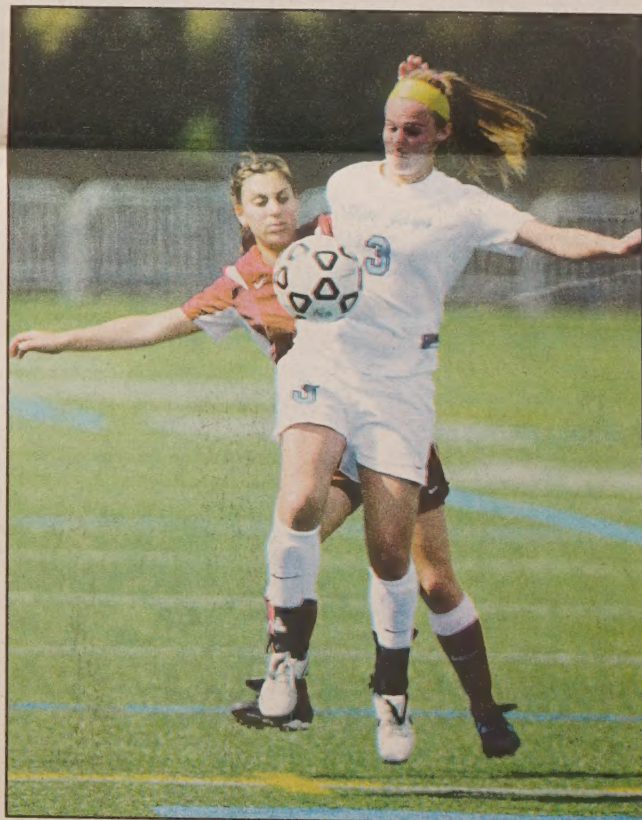
The first half of the match saw the scoreboard showing 0-0

as both teams struggled against the downpour. While Swarthmore opted to tackle the conditions with possession play, Hopkins made use of the over-the-top air balls and avoided the short pass plays.

Late in the first half, it looked as though the change in style may have paid off as Allie Zazali forced a save from a well-placed header. But as the half time whistle blew, both teams had yet to post a score.

The second half did not signify a break in the rain, but neither did it

see a break in the Jays' attack. Although many of the fans were ready to give up,



Sophomore midfielder Alie Zazali edges out an opponent to gain ball possession.

## Cross Country holds own against DI runners

By **WILLIAM CHAN**  
For the News-Letter

The Hopkins men's and women's cross country team is off to a great start this year. How great do you ask? Well, freshman John Kelly provided us with a few words on how the season is going.

"Have you seen that movie *Remember the Titans*? Well, that's us ... In the end, we're going to finish on top."

But can this new season's expectations be sustained and met by the time President Brody bids us farewell? Confidence is something that can surely propel the team to their first championship

in the Centennial Conference. Coming off of a pre-season third place poll, the Jays men's runners have done nothing but prove that they can only rise from that ranking.

To open the season, Hopkins easily won the men's championship at the Baltimore Metro Championships. In fact, the top five runners all donned black and blue uniforms, with a big fat "HOPKINS" on their chests. On Sept. 20, the men's Hopkins team took third place at the Dickinson Invitational. This past weekend, the men's team took fifth place amongst Division-I competition at the Colonial Inter-Regional Meet.

The women's cross country team is off to a great start as well. After their pre-season ranking of #2, they won the Baltimore Metro title, having runners finish second, third and fourth, won the Dickinson Invitational, and took third place at the Colonial Inter-Regional, where they competed as the only Division-III school. Last week, junior Laura Paulsen was named women's cross country runner of the week by our conference by winning the 6K race outright at the Dickinson Invitational.

Can both teams sustain these strong performances for the whole season? According to head coach Bobby Van Allen,

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## INSIDE

### Women's Tennis: ITA Southeast Regionals

The women's tennis team closed out their fall season with a strong showing from the singles squad, a muted performance in doubles, and a heightened attitude for the spring. **Page B10.**

### Athlete of the Week: Laura Paulsen

As this junior cross country runner leaves opponents in the dust, winning races nationally against Division I teams, she makes sure not to leave her teammates behind. **Page B11.**

### Football: Undefeated Showdown

Both Hopkins and Moravian stepped onto the field undefeated, ready to knock each other off their pedestal of perfection. Unfortunately, it was the Blue Jays that came short in the end. **Page B10.**



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